



City of Murrieta

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

*The mission of Murrieta Community Services Department
is to provide safe, clean, beautiful, and accessible facilities, parks,
and open spaces, as well as offer a variety of leisure activities for all people
in the areas of recreation, education, and culture*

June 2009

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CITY OF MURRIETA

June 2009

The City of Murrieta's parks, open spaces, trails, activities, and events do more than provide recreational opportunities and outdoor enjoyment for its residents; they epitomize what is unique about Murrieta and in the case of its parks, they offer a distinctive heritage to hand down to future generations. Since its incorporation in 1991, Murrieta has developed a very high level of parks and recreation services and has acquired or built a notable array of facilities. The level of programming offered is wide-ranging and a large percentage of Murrieta residents participate in the City's recreation activities. In addition, the City is an active steward of the natural environment by collaborating with other agencies to protect the land.

It is the goal of the Community Services District to provide well-maintained and accessible park facilities; to offer leisure activities for all ages in recreation, education, and culture; and to acquire land and open spaces that will help to promote the conservation of natural resources and encourage a sustainable quality of life for the community. This update to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan will enable the City to move forward with these goals.

The City adopted its original Parks and Recreation Master Plan in 1999. At that time, the City had a population of 41,650 residents, no Community or Senior Center, included 25 parks in its inventory, and maintained approximately 600 acres of open space, streetscape, slope, and parkland. As of the adoption of this update in June 2009, the City's population is over 100,000 residents. The Community Services District has a Community Center and a Senior Center, and a Teen Center in design. In addition, the number of parks maintained has increased to 48 with another currently under construction and 3 more in design. The Maintenance Division now oversees approximately 1,350 acres of open space, streetscape, slope, trails, and parkland.

With the adoption of the original Master Plan in 1999, the City of Murrieta defined the existing and proposed physical facilities used by the public for passive and active parks as well as recreation in the community. This original Master Plan was based on detailed demographics and assessments of facility needs for both City use, and youth and adult sports groups. It became the implementation tool for determining what types of amenities to include in future designs.

Staff will use this updated Master Plan to continue to set the framework for decision makers in the planning and rehabilitation of the City's parks and recreation facilities as well as use it as a planning tool that will establish park and facility standards for the next ten years. Furthermore, the updated Master Plan will provide a systematic and prioritized approach to the implementation of needed parks and facilities. The finished update includes three main components: (1) a needs assessment and gap analysis, (2) recommended modifications to parks and facilities to meet current and future needs, and (3) a financial implementation plan.

The main challenge for Murrieta in the coming years will be expanding its physical facilities to meet currently underserved recreation needs. The community has expressed a need for additional facilities such as tennis courts, BMX, equestrian amenities, sports fields, and aquatics just to name a few. Meeting these needs will be a challenge due to the current depressed economy and the corresponding decrease in developer funding to provide for these services. This updated plan recommends innovative strategies to provide for the recreation needs expressed by the community. Just as important, the plan offers recommendations on trail connectivity and park enhancements, which are highly valued by Murrieta residents. It also provides an implementation strategy based on the City's past successes and recommends project priorities.

Overall, the update to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is the key to help staff define the challenges, outline the opportunities, and implement the recommendations. All of this to ensure that Murrieta continues to be a great place to grow and play!

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Executive Summary

What is the Master Plan?

The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a realistic guide for the creative, orderly development and management of recreation facilities and programs for the City, now and into the future.

Parks and Recreation facilities and services are vitally important in helping create and encourage healthy lifestyles and livable communities

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan) is based on the guiding principle that recreation facilities, programs, trails, and open space are important resources within the City of Murrieta.

Why are Parks and Recreation Important?

Across the nation, organizations such as the California Park and Recreation Society describe the many important ways recreation facilities and programming can help in creating healthy lifestyles and livable communities, including:

- Strengthen community identity and sense of place;
- Protect important places (environmentally, historically, aesthetically);
- Foster human development and education;
- Support economic activity;
- Increase cultural unity;
- Promote health and wellness through physical activity;
- Provide civic and social meeting places;
- Strengthen families; and
- Increase vitality and distinctiveness of individual neighborhoods.

The benefits of recreation facilities and programs are crucially important in the quest to sustain the City's vision:

"Murrieta: Where It All Comes Together"

The 1994 General Plan envisioned a future in harmony with the environment with an emphasis on economic opportunity and community health and welfare.

What was the Master Plan Process?

The Master Plan document is organized into sections that mirror the process:

Section One: Introduction. This section summarizes the Master Plan purpose, process, demographic context, and related documents.

Section Two: Existing Recreation Resources. Understanding existing conditions in the community is an essential step in the Master Plan process. Section Two provides an inventory of parks and recreation facilities within and surrounding the City limits.

Section Three: Recreation Facility Needs Assessment. Section Three provides a detailed assessment of the recreation facility needs of the Murrieta community. Data from the community was obtained to develop an understanding of the demand for variety of facilities. Both qualitative and quantitative information sources are discussed. The assessment utilizes the following needs identification tools:

- Community Outreach (three workshops, a staff focus group, a community stakeholder focus group, sports organization survey)
- Citywide Telephone Survey
- Recreation Demand and Needs Analysis (a statistically valid needs calculation)
- Service Area Analysis
- Acreage Analysis
- Program Needs Analysis
- Trends and Implications Report

Section Four: Recreation Programs. Section Four provides an inventory of City recreation programs and services and a discussion of other recreation programs and services open to the public through private and non-profit providers. Using similar needs identification tools and prioritization processes as outlined in Section Three (for facilities), program needs are discussed and prioritized. Recommendations are provided that address identified programming needs.

Section Five: Recreation Facility Recommendations. Section Five provides recommendations with respect to existing and proposed parks, unimproved parkland, as well as joint use and collaborative or partnering opportunities.

Section Six: Funding & Implementation. Sources for funding capital costs are identified, and current funding strategies are briefly discussed. Capital costs are assigned to the proposed recommendations discussed in Section Five and suggested funding sources are identified to assist the City in implementing the proposed Master Plan recommendations.

Existing Recreation Resources

What Recreation Facilities Exist in Murrieta?

Within Murrieta unique and diverse recreation opportunities are available in City facilities:

- *One (1) City-Wide Park, Los Alamos Hills Sports Park, totaling 45 acres.*
- *Seven (7) Community Parks totaling more than 95 acres.*
- *Ten (10) Neighborhood Parks totaling over 72 acres.*

- *Twenty-one (21) Neighborhood Play Areas totaling over 35 acres.*
- *Two (2) Special Use Parks.*
- *Seven (7) Nature Parks, totaling more than 27 acres of parkland and 244 acres of open space.*
- *Twenty-eight (28) parks added since 1999.*

In addition, there are private recreation facilities, facilities outside the City, and schools that all contribute to the recreation opportunities for Murrieta residents. The City has an established Joint Use Agreement with the school district that allows the City to utilize some of the school campus facilities.

An accurate quantification and evaluation of existing resources is the foundation of the needs assessment effort of Section Three of the Master Plan.

Are there undeveloped sites in Murrieta that represent future public park opportunities ?

There are several sites identified that could become recreation facilities:

- Six (6) planned and designed Parks.
- Three (3) planned but not yet designed areas, including Phases 2 and 3 of Los Alamos Hills Sports Park.
- Three (3) city-owned sites that have recently been discussed as recreation facilities, not yet planned.
- Two (2) sites that have been discussed as acquisition targets.

Facility Needs Assessment

A diverse set of needs assessment tools provides both qualitative and quantitative information that leads to an understanding of recreation needs in Murrieta.

The best features of Murrieta's parks are that they are clean, well-maintained, and multi-use

Community Outreach: What do Residents say about Recreation Needs?

Information was gathered from residents and stakeholders through a variety of methods.

Community Workshop #1: According to the workshop participants, the best features of the parks and recreation facilities in Murrieta are:

- *They are clean and maintained*
- *Locations and size*
- *Multi-use facilities*
- *Open spaces and trails*

The most important improvements that the workshop participants would make to Murrieta's parks and recreation facilities are:

- *Growth/Overdevelopment*
- *Traffic (need better public transit)*
- *Loss of hillsides/ridgelines*

All of the workshop participants created the following vision statement for Parks & Recreation in Murrieta in the year 2018:

- *Premiere recreation programs that offer integrated, environmentally responsible, and family-oriented activities for everyone in the community.*

During the workshop, participants were asked to complete a questionnaire soliciting their input on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update. Findings include:

- *Tennis Courts, Skate Parks and BMX facilities were reported as the facilities that are used the most often.*
- *The park most frequently visited is Los Alamos Sports Park.*
- *The most frequent response was the need for a BMX only park and a lighted tennis complex. Also mentioned was upgrading or expanding the Murrieta skate park.*

Community Workshop #2: Sports user groups were invited to discuss park issues. The top sport facility needs in Murrieta are:

- *An Indoor Multi-Use Facility for indoor sports, gymnastics, and dances.*
- *Lighted Soccer Fields*
- *Lighted Softball / Baseball Fields*
- *BMX Facility*
- *Swimming Pool*
- *Frisbee Golf Course*

Some opportunities to meet current and future sports facility needs are:

- *Public/Private partnerships (investors, commercial donations, professional sports teams)*
- *Develop vacant land (developer land, land on west side of town, Los Alamos Hills Sports Park land) • Grants*

The most important improvements the workshop participants would make to Murrieta's park and recreation network are:

- *Add lighting on sports fields/courts*
- *Provide parking at parks*
- *Supervision*

Staff Focus Group: Staff members participated in the focus group meeting and provided diverse and wide-ranging input, summarized in Section 3.1. Participants expressed their Vision for parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services in 2018:

- *Parks, facilities, and programs to serve everyone*
- *Parks and facilities distributed throughout the community*

When asked what was one recreation facility staff would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- *A community center with a gymnasium*
- *An aquatic facility/pool complex*

Community Stakeholder Focus Group: A discussion and consensus building session was conducted with members of local organizations and community leaders. The most important recreation issues include:

- *Lack of lighted sports fields*
- *Lack of community center/multi-use indoor facility*

When asked how can parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services for community residents improve, responses included:

- *Provide more specialty facilities*

Participants expressed their Vision for parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services in 2018:

- *Appropriate, well maintained, clean, and safe park facilities*
- *Serve all ages and the whole community*
- *Connected trails throughout the City*
- *'Green' Technology*

When asked what was one recreation facility they would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- *Aquatic center*
- *Connected trails*

When asked what needs to be done to accomplish the improvements the consensus responses included:

- *Funding*
- *Clear vision*
- *Leadership*

Community Workshop #3: Attendees participated in a needs prioritization and consensus process. Top recreation facility needs are:

- *Dog Park*
- *Trail Network*
- *Indoor Multi-Use Facility*

Sports Organization Survey: Seven (7) sports organizations responded to a questionnaire designed to gather information about participation, needs, and facilities used. This information is used in demands and needs analysis. More qualitative descriptions of issues are also included, such as the need for more support elements (storage, restrooms, lighted fields) and in some cases more fields.

Community-Wide Telephone Survey

A total of 300 interviews were completed, contacted through use of a random digit dial sample. The purpose was to provide a statistically valid basis for determining how residents participate in recreation activities. Highlights include:

- *Forty percent (40%) of households are frequent users of park and recreation facilities (utilizing facilities at least three times per month)*

- *California Oaks Sports Park was reported as the most-often used facility by the highest percentage of households*
- *Walking/Jogging/Running, Picnicking, going to a Dog Park, Bicycling, Use of Play Equipment, and Swimming in Public Pools were the most popular activities over the last year*
- *The vast majority (98%) of the population indicated that maintenance is important in their decision to choose a recreation site*
- *Nearly all respondents (97%) indicated some level of positive satisfaction with maintenance of parks and recreation facilities*
- *The top three active recreation needs desired by Murrieta residents are Trails, Dog Park, and Indoor Swimming Pool. One in six (16%) indicated their household members have no new recreation facility needs.*

A key element of the telephone survey is actual recreation activity information that generates participation rates in each of fourteen (14) recreational activities analyzed in Section 3.3, Recreation and Demand and Needs Analysis.

How Many Fields, Courts, Pools, and other Recreation Elements Does Murrieta Need Now and in the Future?

Recreation demand is evaluated based on actual participation rates as determined via the telephone survey with Murrieta residents. Demand for each recreation element type (i.e. soccer field) is then compared to supply to generate a need for that element. Of the activities surveyed, significant current (2008) deficits are indicated for:

- *Adult softball (1 field)*
- *Baseball (9 fields)*
- *Soccer Fields (13 fields)*
- *Indoor Basketball (3 courts)*
- *Picnic Tables*
- *Swimming Pool (1 rec pool)*
- *Tennis Courts (28 courts)*
- *Indoor Basketball Courts (1 court)*

- *Walking/Jogging Paths*
- *Bicycling Paths*
- *Skateboard Park (1 area)*
- *Dog Parks (3 areas)*

These deficits will increase over time as the population grows, unless additional facilities are provided.

Are Neighborhood Parks Conveniently and Appropriately Distributed throughout the City?

In addition to providing appropriate quantities and types of recreation facilities, the City strives to provide them in useful and appropriate locations. Service Area Analysis was conducted with respect to neighborhood recreation, to sports facilities, and to community centers.

There are seven (7) residential areas that are not within convenient walking distance to a park

Neighborhood Parks. One-half (.5) mile is approximately a 20-minute walk for most people. It is generally considered a significant threshold in distance, beyond which some segments of the population will tend to decline walking opportunities.

Most residences should be within one-half mile, a convenient walkable distance for most people, of a neighborhood park or other park that may satisfy common recreation needs. This .5 mile radius around parks and recreational facilities is defined as a "service area". Service area analysis demonstrates that seven (7) residential areas are outside of the established .5 mile service radius of a park.

- *Two (2) areas within the "Y" between the 15 and 215*
- *One (1) area east of 215, north of Los Alamos*
- *One (1) area west of 15, south of Calle del Oso*
- *One (1) area west of the 15, between Los Alamos Rd. and Hawthorn St.*

- One (1) area north of Hayes and Hawthorne
- One (1) area east of Margarita

Acreage Analysis: Is There Sufficient Parkland Acreage in Murrieta? How much parkland will be needed in the future?

The City's General Plan establishes a parkland acreage goal of 5 acres per 1000 residents. Using this goal, a current deficit of 34 acres exists. A future deficit of 133 acres will occur if no new parkland is added and the City continues to grow as anticipated. These are not significant shortages.

Are there recreation program needs that require additional recreation facilities?

Some of the program recommendations (Section Four) have implications for facilities, since many programs require facilities for operation. Facilities or improvements needed to address program needs include:

- *Baseball Fields*
- *Community centers that: provide support for youth experiences in a variety of programs, including non-sports activities; address the needs of multi-generational families; provide indoor and outdoor spaces for supervised free play; allow for expanded youth programs and services, including teen dances; strengthen the existing youth employment program; promote mentoring and volunteer programs; expand physical fitness opportunities, and; decentralize services and programs for older adults.*
- *Event Park*
- *Fitness Center*
- *Softball Field (lighted)*
- *Special Needs Facilities*
- *Swim facilities/Aquatic Center*

These program needs are included in the Program Needs Summary Matrix in Section 3.7.

What do studies of overall recreation and social trends tell us about needs in Murrieta?

A complete copy of the trends report is found in the Appendix. The report reviews current literature and studies on social and recreational trends and discusses the potential impact on the City of Murrieta. Needs pertaining to recreation facilities include:

- *“Intergenerational” facilities that address needs of all of the City’s population regardless of age.*
- *Facilities that support programs, and provide positive, safe, and secure recreational alternatives.*
- *Facilities that support programs and activities, promote personal connections, and allow the community to highlight and share their diverse backgrounds.*
- *Neighborhood parks that allow for increased community connectedness.*
- *Facilities, such as neighborhood parks, that conveniently support healthy lifestyles.*
- *Facilities that support increased multi-cultural family arts events.*
- *Facilities in which children can experience and appreciate nature and open space.*

These facility needs are included in the Needs Summary Matrix at the end of Section Three.

What Are the Top Priority Needs?

Combining all needs identification tools, Exhibit 3.6-1 Facility Needs Summary indicates which recreation elements are needed in Murrieta. Top priority needs include:

- *Baseball Fields*
- *Bike Trails*
- *Community Center*
- *Dog Park*
- *Gymnasium*
- *Soccer Fields*
- *Softball Fields*
- *Swimming Pool*
- *Walk/Jog/Run Trails*

Recreation Programs and Services

Toward its vision of “Murrieta: Where It All Comes Together,” the City of Murrieta provides a wide range of recreation, social, and cultural programs and events.

What Programs and Services Are Needed?

A variety of needs assessment tools were utilized to determine what additional programs and services are needed in Murrieta. Workshops, questionnaires, interviews, and a City-wide telephone survey provided qualitative and quantitative information that helped establish top program needs, including:

- *Aerobics/Spinning/Fitness Classes*
- *After School Programs*
- *Baseball/Softball Programs*
- *Cooking Classes*
- *Health and Wellness Programs*
- *Hobbies/Self Improvement/Career Development*
- *Music/Concerts*
- *Nature Education Programs*
- *Senior Programs*
- *Special Needs Programs*
- *Swimming Lessons/Aquatics Classes*

Based on qualitative and quantitative data collected during the Master Plan process and the review and analysis of current programs, there are no significant gaps in programming. Staff has responded well to meeting the program interests of the community. However, it is timely to review programs offerings; eliminate any duplication, focus on core program, and strengthen existing program offerings to respond to changing demographics and recreation preferences. Detailed recommendations are provided to address these top needs plus others identified in the process.

Recreation Facility Recommendations

Based on the needs assessment process and on previous strategic plan processes, a set of key issues has been identified and addressed in detail in the Section Five. The Key Issues include:

- *Provision of quantities of swimming pools appropriate to the current and future population.*
- *Development of an effective, connected, multi-use trail system for walking, jogging, hiking, biking, and equestrian uses.*
- *Provision of quantities of sports facilities appropriate to the current and future population, to include:*
 - *Baseball fields*
 - *Soccer Fields*
 - *Softball Fields*
 - *Tennis Courts*
- *Provision of community centers in appropriate locations.*
- *Addition of at least two (2) off leash dog areas, distributed in the City.*
- *Provision of gymnasiums in appropriate locations.*
- *Provision of parkland acreage quantities consistent with the City standard of 5 acres per 1,000, with appropriate distribution.*

What Overall Strategies are Recommended to Address Identified Needs?

Satisfaction of identified needs does not appear to be an overly daunting task; the City has effectively pursued park and recreation facility additions and currently plans for more park improvements. Continued parks and recreation facility planning and development will be needed to satisfy current and future needs. It is intended that the City pursue satisfaction of recreation facility needs using the following key strategies and improvements:

- *Satisfaction of significant sports field needs should be pursued in new partnership sites, by new land acquisition, and increased joint use of school sites.*
- *A significant aquatic center on City property should be pursued.*
- *Additionally, existing and future tot lots/playgrounds can be enhanced with the addition of spray play elements, geographically distributed throughout the City.*
- *A centrally located new community center should be pursued in future phases of Los Alamos Hills Sports Park.*
- *Increased trail connectivity and opportunities should be emphasized, focusing on corridors and links to adjacent natural open space, parks, schools, and commercial areas.*
- *Neighborhood Parks should be within reasonable walking distance of most homes.*
- *Design and use of opportunity sites should be pursued in order to meet recreation needs and goals (parkland acreage and recreation element quantities).*
- *New residential development should be planned to include park and recreation facilities that adequately serve the planned population and complements and enhances the City park system as a whole.*

What Specific Projects Should be Pursued?

Section Five makes very detailed suggestions for improvements to existing facilities, including:

- *Potential new aquatic elements at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park or at California Oaks Sports Park.*
- *Additional ballfields (or conversion of practice fields to game fields) at some joint use schools and at existing parks.*
- *Conversion of some existing soccer fields to artificial turf, allowing for increased use.*
- *Increased joint use of high school tennis courts.*

- *A new 4-court tennis complex at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 2).*
- *Consideration of new community center buildings at California Oaks Sports Park, Los Alamos Hills Sports Park, Second Street Park, and/or Golden Cities Park.*
- *Consideration of off-leash dog areas in existing parks.*
- *Renovation or expansion of playgrounds/tot lots in twelve (12) existing parks.*
- *Addition of shaded picnic areas in several existing parks.*
- *Addition of spray play elements in three (3) existing parks.*

There are also suggestions for new facilities such as:

- *A new sports facility in partnership with the City of Temecula.*
- *Acquisition of Water District Property.*
- *Neighborhood parks in underserved areas.*
- *Future Vineyards Park.*
- *Consideration of off-leash dog areas in some of the new opportunity sites.*

If these recommendations in existing and proposed facilities are implemented the City will be able to meet identified needs.

What are the costs for implementation?

Section Six describes approximate anticipated project costs and identifies potential funding sources.

- Implementation costs for recommendations at existing parks could total \$10,350,000.
- Implementation costs for recommendation at proposed planned and designed recreation facilities could total \$17,738,000.
- Anticipated costs for recommendations at proposed facilities which are planned but not yet designed could total \$9,905,000.
- Implementation costs for recommendations at unplanned proposed facilities could total \$1,200,000.

Section One

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update (Master Plan) is based on the guiding principle that parks, recreation facilities, programs, trails, and open space are important resources within the City of Murrieta. Across the nation, organizations such as the California Park and Recreation Society describe the many important ways recreation facilities and programming can help in creating healthy lifestyles and livable communities, including:

- *Strengthen community identity and sense of place*
- *Protect important places (environmentally, historically, aesthetically)*
- *Foster human development and education*
- *Support economic activity*
- *Increase cultural unity*
- *Promote health and wellness through physical activity*
- *Provide civic and social meeting places*
- *Strengthen families*
- *Increase vitality and quality of individual neighborhoods*

A park or a recreation facility means different things to different people. To some residents, parks are active sports fields; others have images of passive open spaces where one can walk, rest, and enjoy nature. Still others may envision parks as places for community gatherings and events. Indeed, parks and recreation facilities are used for all of these purposes and more. A diverse, vital recreation system is therefore necessary in sustaining Murrieta's visionary course:

Section One Highlights:

- **The Master Plan is an implementation tool providing strategies for addressing the General Plan's goals and policies.**
- **The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a realistic guide for the creative, orderly development and management of recreation facilities and programs for the City.**
- **Demographic characteristics such as age, presence of children, ethnicity, and income have a relationship to recreation patterns and program needs.**
- **In addition to the General Plan, there are a number of other existing documents and plans that relate to the Master Plan.**

“Murrieta: Where It All Comes Together”

The 1994 General Plan envisioned a future in harmony with the environment with an emphasis on economic opportunity and community health and welfare.

Key questions discussed in this Master Plan include: What parks, recreational facilities, and programs does Murrieta have? Who uses Murrieta parks, facilities, and programs? What role do parks, facilities, open space, and recreation programs have in the lives of residents? What types of parks, facilities, and programs does the Murrieta need and which are the most important? What changes should be made to existing parks and facilities? Where will new parks, facilities, and programs be placed and how will they be funded and maintained?

1.1 Purpose of the Master Plan

The purpose of this Master Plan is to provide a realistic guide for the creative, orderly development and management of parks, recreation facilities and programs for the City, now and into the future. The Master Plan is an implementation tool of the General Plan, providing strategies for addressing the General Plan’s vision, as well as goals and policies based on current analysis and community input.

Over the years, the City of Murrieta has actively undertaken a variety of planning efforts pertaining to individual Park Master Plans, Land Use studies, and Specific Plans. The Master Plan builds on many of these previous planning efforts and obtains new community input that has resulted in providing an up-to-date understanding of current and future recreation needs and opportunities specific to Murrieta.

This report is intended to be a flexible document, presenting findings and recommendations that will be evaluated, validated, and/or modified periodically as the City responds to unforeseen opportunities and constraints as well as changes in residents' needs and demands. It is anticipated that Master Plan recommendations will be considered on an annual basis in the context of other City priorities, through incorporation into the City budget, so that recreation projects can begin the process of implementation.

There is a strong connection between open space and recreation in Murrieta. Natural open space is also strongly connected to community identity in many ways, including as reinforcement of the area's "western" or early days heritage. The City's General Plan addresses open space comprehensively, including open space for non-recreation purposes. This Master Plan addresses open space from a recreation standpoint.

This report updates the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Financing Strategy adopted by the City Council in 1999.



1.2 Approach and Document Organization

The Master Plan document is organized into the following sections:

Section One: Introduction

This section summarizes the Master Plan's purpose and process. The current demographic composition of Murrieta and implications for recreation trends is briefly outlined. A list of related documents that were reviewed as part of the Master Plan is identified.



Section Two: Existing Recreation Resources

Understanding the existing conditions in the community is an essential step in the Master Plan process. Section Two provides an inventory of City parks and recreation facilities as well as other recreation facilities open to the public and includes discussion of public school facilities, private recreation facilities, and a listing of other publicly-owned lands (opportunity sites) within and surrounding the City limits.

Section Three: Recreation Facility Needs Assessment

Section Three provides a detailed assessment of the recreation facility needs of the Murrieta community. Data from the community was obtained to develop an understanding of the demand for a variety of facilities. Both qualitative and quantitative information sources are discussed. The assessment utilizes the following needs identification tools:

Community Outreach: Information gathered from the community through a series of workshops, focus groups, stakeholder interviews, workshop participant questionnaires, and a sports organization survey

Community-Wide Telephone Survey: The phone survey provides current, statistically valid information specific to Murrieta that gives detailed information for the types of recreation facilities most often utilized by Murrieta residents. A total of 300 randomly selected, geographically distributed households in and adjacent to the City of Murrieta were interviewed.

Recreation Demand and Needs Analysis: An evaluation of selected current and future facility needs was developed using results from the telephone survey, sports organization survey, facility inventory, and relevant demographic projections

Service Area Analysis: An evaluation of how parks and recreation facilities are distributed throughout residential areas in Murrieta

Acreage Analysis: An evaluation of parkland acreage needs in the City based on established standards and on identified need for specific recreation facilities such as sports fields or courts

Program Needs Analysis: Evaluation of recreation program needs (Section Four) that generates facility needs.

Trends and Implications Report: A review of current literature and studies on state and national, social and recreational trends and patterns, and discussion of potential impacts on recreation in the City of Murrieta.

Section Four: Recreation Programs

Section Four provides an inventory of City recreation programs and services and a discussion of other recreation programs and services open to the public through private and non-profit providers. Using similar needs identification tools and prioritization processes as those outlined in detail in Section Three (for facilities), program needs are discussed and prioritized. Recommendations are provided that address identified programming needs.

Section Five: Recreation Facility Recommendations

Section Five provides recommendations with respect to existing and proposed parks, unimproved parkland, and joint use and collaborative or partnering opportunities. Recommendations are intended to address the recreation facility and program needs identified in Sections Three and Four and are the result of existing inventory, analysis of demand, community input, and consideration of established goals and policies.

Section Six: Funding and Implementation

Sources for funding capital costs are identified, and current funding strategies are briefly discussed. Capital costs are assigned to the proposed recommendations discussed in Section Five and suggested funding sources are identified to assist the City in implementing the proposed Master Plan recommendations.

Appendix (separate document)

The Appendix contains many of the full original reports (trends analysis, demand and needs analysis, etc.) summarized in the Master Plan.

1.3 Context

The City's General Plan, first adopted in 1994 following the City's incorporation in 1991, established a vision for the City that is well on its way to fulfillment. The prideful 1994 General Plan envisioned a future in harmony with the environment with an emphasis on economic opportunity and community health and welfare.

Today, Murrieta is a unique City recognized for its open space, history and heritage, diverse housing options, low crime rates, distinguished schools, neighborhood orientation, and economic vitality. The desirability of the area, coupled with the position of the City near other population centers, has resulted in rapid growth and development over the last decade, spurring renewed planning efforts.

The planning area for this Master Plan is consistent with City boundaries (See Exhibit 1.3-1 Land Use). Current City boundaries are different from those shown in the General Plan and the 1999 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, due to annexation efforts. Note, the Sphere of Influence area is not part of this current Master Plan.

Physical Setting

Murrieta is a picturesque community of approximately 100,173¹ persons located in southwestern Riverside County within the Murrieta Valley.

Within Murrieta, several significant natural and man-made features help shape neighborhoods and provide both opportunities and constraints with respect to parks, recreation, circulation, and community life. These include:

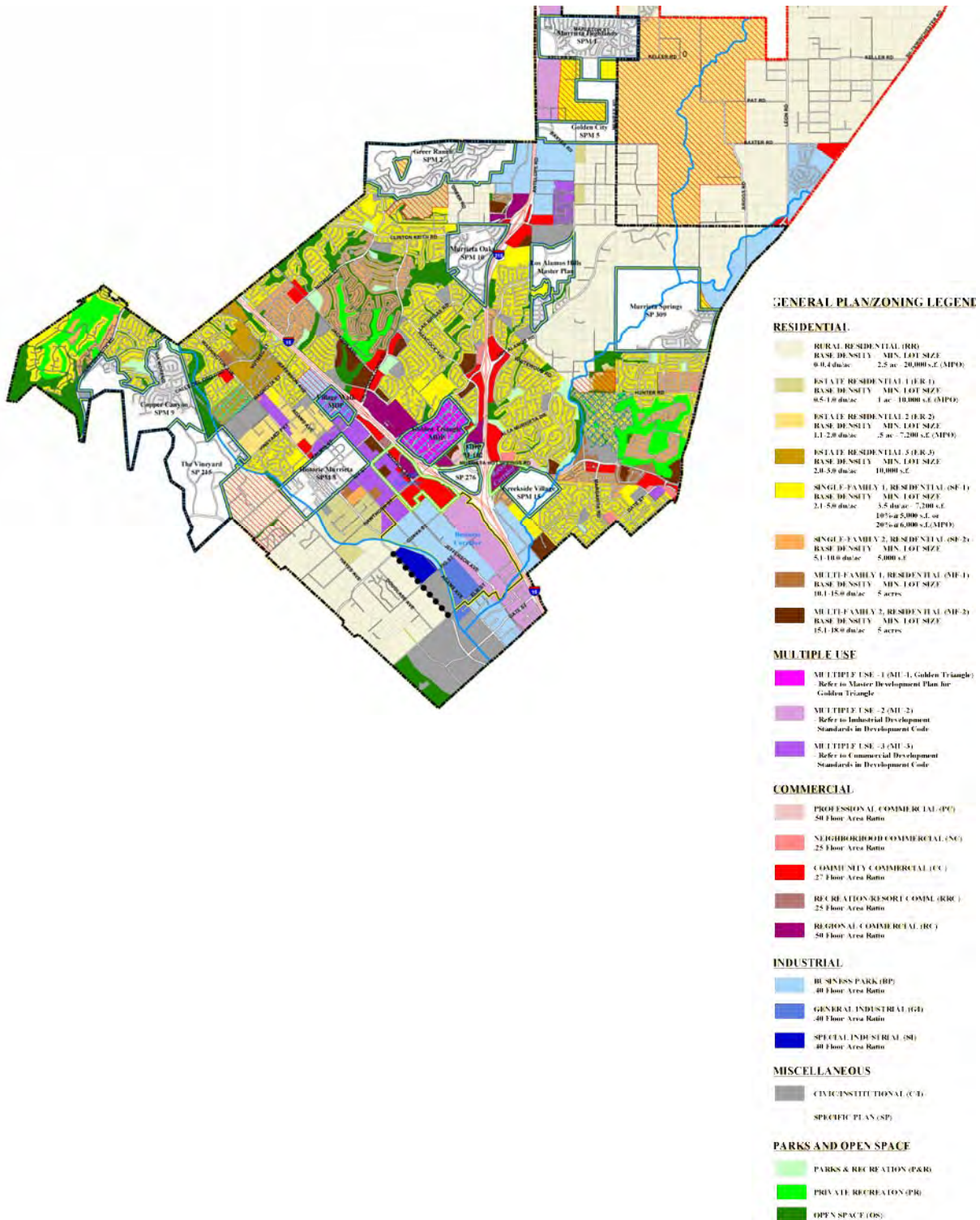
- The Santa Ana Mountains and Santa Rosa Plateau, in the west
- Murrieta Creek and tributaries, running primarily north/south along the western edge of the City
- A number of east/west creeks and drainages
- The historic Los Alamos Corridor
- Prominent ridgelines, including the distinctive “Hogbacks”
- Interstate Freeways 15 and 215
- Canyons



Varied topography and open space provide many walking, hiking, equestrian, and cycling opportunities and contribute strongly to community identity and is a reminder of Murrieta’s heritage.

¹ *State of California, Department of Finance estimate.*

Exhibit 1.3-1 City of Murrieta – Zoning Map from General Plan (amended February 1, 2005)



History

The Murrieta Valley has a very interesting and rich cultural history that paints a picture of change over thousands of years and which includes Native American settlers, Spanish ranchos, railroad expansion, farming, international recognition for natural hot springs, and land booms.



Extensive preserved open space in and around Murrieta is a reminder of the early days in the Valley. Not only are there areas of special historical significance, but the ridgelines, drainage courses, and view sheds recall the landscape as seen by Native Americans and early Euro-American visitors. There have been many significant events that have shaped the physical and economic evolution of the area² including:

- Sometime after 1500, the Payomik Kowichum peoples settled near the area that would become Old Town Murrietta, naming it Avaxat.
- In the early 1800's, Avaxat became a rest stop along the Sonoran Trail and later in the century a stagecoach stop, known as Alamos, for American and European settlers.
- The San Luis Rey and San Juan Capistrano Missions claimed the territory and used the land for cattle.
- The entire Murrieta area was divided among three land grants: Rancho Temecula, San Jacinto Rancho, and Rancho Santa Rosa.
- Esequial Murrieta, a Spaniard, purchased 52,000 acres of land from the ranchos in 1873. His brother, Juan, took control of the property and brought a large flock of 100,000 sheep to the ranch.
- A railroad depot was built in 1883, which spurred agricultural growth and increased settlement. The Temecula Land and Water Company purchased Murrieta's ranch in 1884 and commenced surveying and subdivision. A land boom ensued.

² 1994 General Plan



- Murrieta Hot Springs became popular with visitors from Los Angeles and San Diego.
- The area became agriculturally productive, producing hay, grains, fruits and nuts, grapes, olives, poultry, livestock, alfalfa, oats, wheat, and barley.
- Fritz Guenther developed a popular resort at the hot springs.
- The railroad line closed in 1935, ending the land boom.
- During the 1960's the Murrieta area gained a reputation for breeding racehorses.
- Freeway enhancements in the 1980's made access from metropolitan areas easier.
- Murrieta, with a population of almost 24,000, incorporated on July 1, 1991 and approved its first General Plan in 1994.

Fortunately, much evidence of this rich heritage remains in Murrieta in the form of preserved historic buildings and structures.

Current Land Use

The following summary is excerpted from the City's Land Use Element. The City of Murrieta's General Plan Area includes both the incorporated City Limits and the Sphere of Influence. The total Plan Area is 26,938 acres (42.09 square miles), with the City limits totaling 18,274 acres (28.55 square miles) and the Sphere of Influence 8,667 acres (13.54 square miles). The Murrieta Plan Area is diverse, ranging from subdivision tract housing in the core of the City, to open, undeveloped lands in the Sphere of Influence.

West of I-15. The lands located west of Interstate 15 (I-15) are the most diverse in the Plan Area. This area includes historic resources, a major watercourse, rural and single-family tract homes, and the majority of the City's industrial land. In the central portion of this area is anchored by the historic downtown. North and west of Historic Murrieta are residential tracts (Historic Murrieta). These tracts are developing near the Murrieta Valley High School. Most of the new homes are, or will be part of the ongoing development of the Copper Canyon and Vineyard Specific Plans.



Between I-15 and I-215. The lands located between the two interstates represents the commercial core of the City. The California Oaks and Rancho Las Brisas Specific Plans are built-out and the California Oaks Road commercial corridor is nearly complete. Two remaining specific plans, Greer Ranch and Murrieta Oaks have yet to commence with development. The City's future central business district, the Golden Triangle, is located south of Los Alamos Road to Murrieta Hot Springs Road, and is envisioned as being a high intensity node, whereby commercial, institutional and higher densities and residential activities take place. Finally, the regional commercial focus of the City is located south of Murrieta Hot Springs Road, at the confluence of I-15 and I-215. Approved as a major regional entertainment facility, this area is anticipated to provide social and economic benefits to Murrieta residents.

East of I-15. The lands east of Interstate 215 consists of single-family tract developments, large lot estates, and open lands. This area also includes a special policy district, The Los Alamos Corridor, that is envisioned to retain the rural lifestyle of Murrieta. The Sphere of Influence area is generally open lands, except along Winchester Road, in the Hunter Road vicinity, where single-family tract development is occurring.

Summary of Demographic Context



Understanding the demographic context of Murrieta is an important component of recreation facility and program planning. Demographic characteristics such as age, presence of children, ethnicity, and income have been demonstrated in past research to have a relationship to recreation patterns and program needs. For these reasons, an overview of changes and emerging trends of the resident population is important as the community plans its preferred future. A complete demographic analysis is included in the Appendix.

The varying rates of participation in recreation activities by the various demographic segments of the population are taken into account when preparing the demand and needs projections. Murrieta has an above average proportion of population under 18 years of age which is reflected in the relatively large proportion of households with children. This together with an above average homeownership rate, high home values, rents, and income levels is indicative of an active community and defines the demand profile for the various types of City recreation facilities.

The City of Murrieta has experienced rapid growth since 1990, increasing 128 percent between 1990 and 2000 and another 126 percent between 2000 and 2008. This is an increase of over 80,000 residents since 1990. Growth in the City has averaged 11.1 percent per year compounded between 2000 and 2008, compared to 4.0 percent per year Countywide. It is anticipated that the City may grow by an additional 20,000 residents until the time buildout is reached sometime after 2025. The demographic profile of the City has remained fairly stable over the past eighteen years and indications are that this will continue.

It is expected that Murrieta will experience a slowly increasing ethnic diversity. Household sizes should remain stable and the percentage of children under 18 years of age could decline somewhat. Household income levels are above average and are expected to remain so in the future.

Recreational Trends Analysis and Implications

The Recreational Trends Analysis and Implications for the City of Murrieta reviews studies on state and national social and recreational trends and patterns and discusses the potential impact for the City. These overall trends provide valuable context within which specific Murrieta needs (see Section Three) can be considered. Findings include:

- Growing ethnic and cultural diversity will result in different recreation preferences. Events and programs in public facilities can help build community
- The “baby boomer” group will double in size by 2020, will have different facility expectations, and will have increased interest in recreation compared to previous senior groups. Intergenerational facilities and activities will be important.
- Recreation will continue to be a way for fast growing communities to address issues related to youth social development and community connectedness.
- Recreation facilities and program offerings can continue to play an important role in embracing technology for youth, boomers, and older adults
- Outdoor recreation will continue to play an important role in Murrieta residents’ enjoyment of activities. City and nearby recreation facilities represent significant opportunity to address outdoor recreation needs.
- Fitness and obesity are increasingly important issues that should continue to be addressed by facility and program offerings.
- Scarcity of time is a factor in evaluating effectiveness of program and facility offerings

- An interest in the arts remains high in the state generally and can be addressed in facilities and in programming
- A growing body of research suggests that access to and understanding of the natural world, especially for children, improves physical and psychological health

1.4 Relationship to Other Documents

As described previously, the Master Plan is drawn directly from the comprehensive set of objectives and policies within the approved General Plan. In addition to the General Plan, there are a number of other existing documents and plans that relate to the Master Plan and influence its direction. Each of these documents and plans are briefly discussed below, along with a description of its relationship to the Master Plan.

The City of Murrieta General Plan

Each City in California is required by State law to adopt a comprehensive, long-term General Plan for its own physical development. The General Plan consists of mandatory and discretionary elements including land use, housing, circulation, conservation and open space, safety, noise, air quality, and economic development. California State law requires that the day-to-day decisions of a City should follow logically from, and be consistent with, the General Plan. The Murrieta Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a planning tool that provides a coordinated program of recreational facility development and management carrying out the goals and policies of the General Plan. The primary park and recreation goal, from which numerous General Plan objectives and policies are derived, is to:

“Provide open spaces of sufficient quality and quantity to serve both the active and passive recreational needs of the community”

The current adopted version of the General Plan was created in 1994. Some elements, such as the Land Use Element and Housing Element, were updated more recently.

Murrieta City Trails Map

The City has published a comprehensive trails brochure that describes and maps 15 multi-use trails within the City. Trail etiquette, safety tips, exercise ideas, and a description of the trails docent program are also included. On the map, trails are shown in relation to existing park and recreation facilities.



Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Financing Strategy

The City of Murrieta Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Financing Strategy was approved in 1999 to provide guidance for organized and structured development and renovation of the City's parks, recreation facilities, trails, open space and programs. The 1999 Master Plan provided information with respect to existing facilities, demographics, citizen participation, demand analysis, needs assessment, policies, goals, funding, and implementation.

This current Master Plan updates the 1999 document.

Specific Plans

According to the City's Land Use Element, Specific Plans have been widely utilized in Murrieta to establish development parameters for large land areas. Specific plans may include open space and/or recreation elements that will play a recreation role in the City. Currently, the City of Murrieta has eight (8) active specific plans:

- Copper Canyon
- Golden City
- Greer Ranch
- Murrieta Highlands

- Murrieta Oaks
- The Vineyard
- Historic Murrieta
- SP 275

The Land Use Element illustrates the location and currently approved build-out for each specific plan. The specific plan is an implementing tool of the General Plan that establishes site-specific development regulations. All specific plans must conform to the General Plan, as they are essentially zoning documents for their respective land areas.



Healthy Murrieta

Healthy Murrieta is a movement initiated by the City to improve community health and consists of programs, informational packets, and events aimed at providing opportunities to improve the health of Murrieta residents. Among other suggestions, Healthy Murrieta links community health to recreation and facilities and provides several tools to increase recreational activity, walking, and exercise.

The California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

The Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, offered by the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks, and Tourism, lists fundamental experiences every child would benefit from experiencing before entering high school. The recommendations address recent concerns about youth detachment from outdoor activities, lack of physical exercise, and increased health risks. The State of California and the State Park and Recreation Commission are among the agencies and organizations that have endorsed or

adopted the document³. Every child should have the opportunity to:

- Discover California's Past
- Splash in the water
- Play in a safe place
- Camp under the stars
- Explore nature
- Learn to swim
- Play on a team
- Follow a trail
- Catch a fish
- Celebrate their heritage

In Murrieta or nearby, there are many opportunities to experience the activities on the list.

³ <http://www.calroundtable.org/cobor.htm>

Section Two

2.0 EXISTING RECREATION RESOURCES

This portion of the Master Plan provides an overview of existing parks, recreation facilities and opportunity areas in and around Murrieta. An understanding of existing resources is essential prior to beginning the needs evaluation process.

A diverse combination of City-wide parks, community parks, neighborhood parks, neighborhood play areas, special use facilities, nature parks, joint use school facilities, and nearby regional parks and open space provide opportunities for a myriad of community and personal activities for recreation, education, health, and cultural enrichment.

2.1 Park Definition

For purposes of this Master Plan report, a multi-purpose definition of “park” is desirable that relates to the needs analysis tools used in Section Three:

Public Park or Park Land: An outdoor area owned by a public entity generally available for public passive and/or active recreation usage and containing access or recreation improvements. Parks are usually located in a Parks and Recreation (P & R) Zone as identified in the City's Zoning Map.

Section Two Highlights:

- The City has added 28 parks since the 1999 Master Plan.
- This Master Plan has two new park types; nature parks and neighborhood play areas.
- The City has over 465 acres of parkland located in 48 parks and recreation facilities.
- There are 9 joint use school campuses.
- There are 14 new opportunity sites for new parks and recreation facilities.

Areas not generally considered as "parkland" include: street medians and parkways; natural preserved or conserved open space areas without access; unimproved land zoned for uses other than recreation; and flood zones. This Master Plan report will use the term "park" and "recreation facility" interchangeably and, consistent with the Municipal Code, the terms refer to all six City park types described in section 2.3.

2.2 New Parks and Recreation Facilities Since Previous Master Plan

Since 1999, when the previous Master Plan was adopted, the City has aggressively pursued and/or facilitated design and implementation of a significant number of recreation facility projects. The following is a list of public facilities added to the park and recreation system between 1999 and 2008:

- Antelope Hills Park
- Bear Valley Park
- Blackmore Ranch Park
- Calle Cipres Park
- Calle Estancia Park
- Carson Park
- Cole Canyon Park
- Copper Canyon Park
- Creekside Village Green Park
- Echo Canyon Park
- Falcon's View Park
- Hunt Park
- Los Alamos Hill Sports Park
- Mapleton Park
- Mira Mosa Park
- Monte Vista Park
- Northstar Park
- Oak Mesa Park
- Oak Terrace Park
- Oak Tree Park
- Palomar Park

- Rosewood Park
- Shady Maple Park
- Springbrook Park
- Sycamore Park
- Sykes Ranch Park
- Town Square Park
- Vintage Reserve Park

These facilities represent an addition of over 402 gross acres to the park system. In addition, approximately fourteen (14.5) miles of public trails has been acquired and/or developed for recreation opportunities.



2.3 City Park Types

Parks can be classified by type based primarily on their size, function and character. The categorization of parks is important in understanding city-wide acreage needs and in communicating what type of parks are needed in the future. This master plan, based on the previous 1999 Master Plan, will utilize the following categories:



City-Wide Parks (*Over 50 acres of Parkland*)

City-Wide parks serve larger community populations and provide recreation facilities or open space in significant numbers or sizes. Los Alamos Hills Sports Park is currently the only City-Wide Park.

Community Parks (*up to 50 acres of Parkland*)

Community Parks can provide a broad range of both passive and active recreational opportunities, but their primary purpose is to provide active recreational opportunities for use by a larger segment of the population than neighborhood parks. Community Parks are generally considered to serve several neighborhoods within a two-mile radius. If a Community Park is located within a residential area it can also serve a neighborhood park function and, therefore, is included in the service area analysis for Neighborhood Parks.



Recreation centers are important features in some community parks. These are building facilities that may contain features such as gymnasiums, multi-purpose rooms, classrooms, and offices for recreation staff. Other facilities often found at Community Parks might include sports fields, sports courts, amphitheatres, and group picnic areas. Large special events such as concerts and festivals might also be held in larger Community Parks.



There are seven (7) Community Parks in Murrieta: Alta Murrieta Sports Park, California Oaks Sports Park, Copper Canyon Park, Glen Arbor Park, Hunt Park, Mira Mosa Park, and Pond Park.

Neighborhood Parks (*up to 15 acres of Parkland*)

Neighborhood Parks are intended to serve City residents who live in close proximity; however they also contribute to the overall park system available to the entire community. Ideally, everyone in the City would live within convenient walking distance (typically one-half mile) of a Neighborhood Park. This is defined as the “service radius” or “service area” of a neighborhood park.

Neighborhood Parks should address daily recreation needs of the surrounding neighborhood; features of neighborhood parks might include playgrounds, multi-purpose open turf areas, practice sports fields, picnic tables and/or picnic shelters, walking paths, attractive landscaping, and recreation features such as basketball courts. A size of five (5) acres or more is considered appropriate to serve a neighborhood of approximately 5,000 within its service area.

Neighborhood Play Area *(up to 5 acres of Parkland)*

Neighborhood Play Areas are intended to serve City residents who live in close proximity; however they also contribute to the overall park system available to the entire community. Ideally, everyone in the City would live within convenient walking distance (typically one-half mile) of a Neighborhood Park or Neighborhood Play Area. Neighborhood Play Areas are included in the service radius analysis of Section Three.

Neighborhood Play Areas should address daily recreation needs of the surrounding neighborhood; features of neighborhood parks might include playgrounds, vista points, multi-purpose open turf areas, picnic tables and/or picnic shelters, walking paths, attractive landscaping, and recreation features such as basketball courts.

Special Use Facilities

Special Use Facilities generally possess a unique character or function focused on a single type of activity. An equestrian facility, Frisbee golf course, BMX course, museum, vista points, or community buildings (without an associated park) might be considered Special Use Facilities. Special Use Facilities aren't usually included in the service area analysis for neighborhood parks. The 1999 Master Plan included joint use school sites under the Special Use Facility category.

Nature Parks

Nature Parks are those in which most of the park is undeveloped, and the undeveloped portions contain vegetation, topography, or features which are important to retain in their natural states. Physical public access to natural areas via trails should be encouraged where feasible and appropriate.

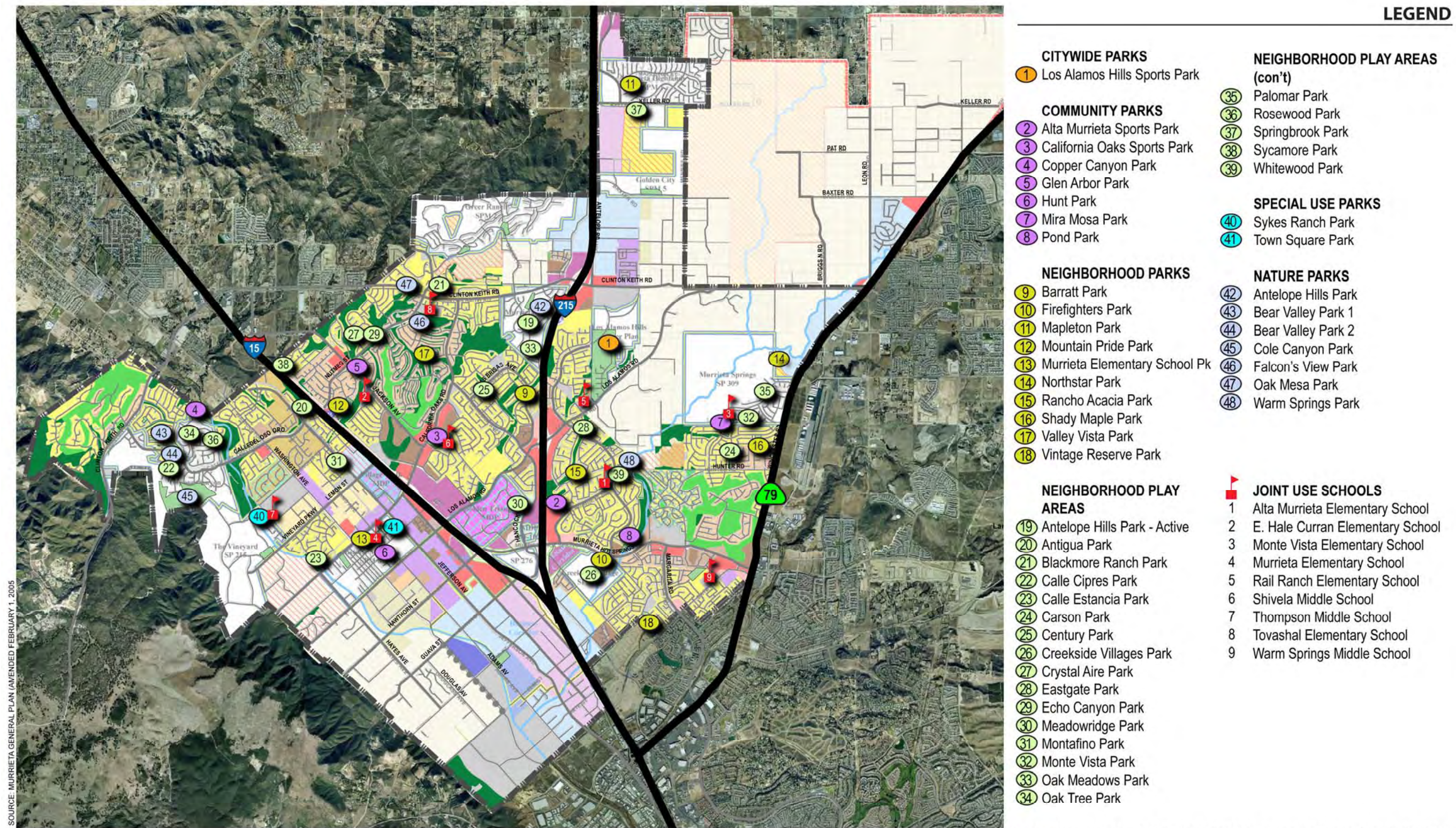
For the purposes of defining this park type, “natural” refers to vegetation and land forms indigenous to the area; turf, irrigated manufactured slopes, detention basins, weedy disturbed areas, and areas landscaped with ornamental vegetation would be considered part of the developed portion of a Nature Park.

Nature Park is a new category of park facility that was previously included under Special Use Facilities.

2.4 Existing City Recreation Facilities

Unique and diverse recreational opportunities are available throughout Murrieta in City facilities. One can find natural open spaces, trails, community buildings, streams, sports courts and fields, a fishing pond, horseshoe pits, swimming pool, passive areas, playgrounds, an equestrian staging area, a skate park, and much more. As a City that has grown primarily over the past few decades, newer areas of Murrieta have benefited from planning efforts that reflect relatively current thinking about neighborhood identity, neighborhood parks, and developer participation in recreation facility implementation. This has led to an effective system of diverse parks, strongly associated with adjacent residential areas and important to overall community identity. This is one of the many strengths of the community, although some neighborhood park gaps remain in older areas. Additional neighborhood parks are planned as part of future residential areas. Another strength of the park system is the nature parks and trails that take advantage of open space and natural areas of the community.

Exhibit 2.4-1: Location of Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities



SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (REVISED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

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Exhibit 2.4-2: Current Facility Inventory

CITY OF MURRIETA RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORY			Parkland Acreage	PASSIVE AMENITIES															ACTIVE AMENITIES															
				Amphitheater	Barbeques	Bike Path/Walking Trail	Catch and Release Pond	Community Center/Rec. Room	Dog Park	Open Grass Areas	Parking Lot	Par Exercise Course	Picnic Tables	Restroom/Port-O-Lets	Shelters	Tot Lot/Playground Equipment	Multi-Purpose Trail/Tail Connection	Water Fountains	Baseball Field (with Mound)	Basketball Court	Concession Building	Football Field	Gymnasium	Horseshoe Pits	Skateboard Park	Soccer Field	Softball Field (without Mound)	Spray Turtles	Swimming/Wading Pool	Tennis Court	Volleyball Court			
KEY:	CITY RECREATION FACILITIES	ADDRESS/LOCATION																																
CITY-WIDE PARKS																																		
1	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park	45.00		•	•					•	•		12	•	3	3	•	•	4L		•	3L				6L								
COMMUNITY PARKS																																		
2	Alta Murrieta Sports Park	9.76		•					•	•		3	•		1	•	•	1L		•	1													
3	California Oaks Sports Park	19.99		•					•	•		6	•	1	1	•	•							1	1P	2L/3		1	2	1				
4	Copper Canyon Park	20.94		•	•		•			•	•	5	•	3	2	•	•	2	4H	•						2P								
5	Glen Arbor Park	18.92							•	•		2																						
6	Hunt Park	4.72					•		•	•		4	•			•	•	1L	1L			0.5				2			1L					
7	Mira Mosa Park	8.10		•	•				•	•		4	•	1	1	•	•	1	2H															
8	Pond Park	14.59			•	•			•	•		8	•																					
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																																		
9	Barratt Park	8.30			•				•	•					1	•	•																	
10	Firefighters Park	3.21		•	•				•	•		9	•	2	1	•	•		2H								•				1			
11	Mapleton Park	9.30		•	•				•	•		2	•	1	1	•	•		1H						1P		1				1			
12	Mountain Pride Park	9.64							•	•		1	•													2P								
13	Murrieta Elementary School Park	4.26							•	•		3	•	1	1	•	•		1						1P		2							
14	Northstar Park	14.00		•					•	•		4	•	1	1	•	•								1P		1P							
15	Rancho Acacia Park	10.11		•	•				•	•		8	•	1	1	•	•								1P		1P							
16	Shady Maple Park	4.79							•	•		2	•	1	1	•	•								1P		1P							
17	Valley Vista Park	6.50		•					•	•		6	•	1	1	•	•								1P									
18	Vintage Reserve Park	3.83		•					•	•		3	•		1	•	•								1P									
NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY AREAS																																		
19	Antelope Hills Park - Active	5.31		•	•				•	•		11		1	1	•	•		2H															
20	Antigua Park	2.26							•	•						1	•	•																
21	Blackmore Ranch Park	1.14		•					•	•		2			1	1	•	•																
22	Calle Cipres Park	1.80							•	•		2				1	•	•																
23	Calle Estancia Park	2.83			•				•	•							•	•																
24	Carson Park	0.69							•	•							•	•																
25	Century Park	3.90			•				•	•		4				1	•	•																
26	Creekside Village Green Park	4.00							•	•		4			1	1	•	•	2H															
27	Crystal Aire Park	1.11		•					•	•		2						•																
28	Eastgate Park	1.50														1	•	•																
29	Echo Canyon Park	3.07							•	•		2				1	•	•																
30	Meadowridge Park	4.29		•	•				•	•		3				1	•	•																
31	Montafino Park	0.76							•	•						1	•	•																
32	Monte Vista Park	1.06		•	•				•	•		2					•	•	2H															
33	Oak Terrace Park	0.20							•	•		2				1	•	•																
34	Oak Tree Park	0.32							•	•						1	•	•																
35	Palomar Park	1.75		•					•	•		2			1	1	•	•																
36	Rosewood Park	0.41							•	•								•																
37	Springbrook Park	0.29		•					•	•		1				1	•	•																
38	Sycamore Park	2.66							•	•						1	•	•	1H															
39	Whitewood Park	1.84							•	•		5			1		•	•								•								
SPECIAL USE PARKS																																		
40	Sykes Ranch Park	2.61		•	•	•			•	•		10				1	•	•																
41	Town Square Park	4.22		•		•	•		•	•								•																
NATURE PARKS																																		
42	Antelope Hills Park	0.00			•																													
43	Bear Valley Park 1	20.14			•				•	•							•	•																
44	Bear Valley Park 2	3.97			•				•	•																								
45	Cole Canyon Park	140.00			•												•	•																
46	Falcon's View Park	9.37			•												•	•																
47	Oak Mesa Park	5.98																																
48	Warm Springs Park	23.80		•					•	•							•	•							•									
TOTAL ACREAGE		467.24																																
DEFINITIONS																																		
RED = Sports Organization uses field for games / Included in demand-needs																																		
L = Lighted																																		
P = Practice Field																																		
H = Half Court																																		



Exhibit 2.4-1 is a map showing the location of each existing park and Exhibit 2.4-2 is a matrix that describes size and features of existing public parks and recreation facilities within the City of Murrieta. More than 290 acres of public parkland and nature parks are found in these forty-eight (48) City facilities, not including joint use facilities.

It is worthwhile noting items of special interest:

- Fourteen (14) parks have trails or trail connections to open space areas
- California Oaks Sports Park is the most used park in the City as reported by the highest number of households (32%) polled in a community-wide telephone survey.
- The vast majority (97%) of residents are very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with maintenance of existing recreation facilities and programs in Murrieta.
- The City hosts major community events at California Oaks Sports Park.
- The oldest park in Murrieta is Hunt Park, built in 1979.
- Copper Canyon Park was originally named Joaquin Ranch.
- Alta Murrieta Sports Park had the first lighted field in 1989.

2.5 Joint Use School Facilities

In almost every Murrieta neighborhood, school facilities play an important role in family life and routine. In a sense, they are civic gathering places and important resources in the community. Within the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, there are nine (9) public school campuses, these joint use school locations and names are identified on Exhibit 2.4-1. A tenth, the new Antelope Valley Elementary School, will be added in 2009. Many campuses have outdoor play areas and sports fields that are used by the City, by sports organizations, and by Murrieta residents.

The City has an established Joint Use Agreement with these 9 schools that allows the City to utilize school campuses, and that allows the School District to use City facilities. Current joint use includes:

- Some schools serve as parks after 4:00 pm on weekdays and after 8 am on weekends.
- Shivela Middle School uses fields at California Oaks Sports Park.
- Cole Canyon Elementary School uses Copper Canyon Park.
- Murrieta Elementary School uses the adjoining City park, Murrieta Elementary School Park.
- Through the City, Murrieta Youth Soccer League plays games at Tovashal Elementary, Rail Ranch Elementary, and Shivela Middle School

Additionally, sports organizations such as the football league utilize school facilities for games and practices and contract directly through the District, not the City. Football games are played at the two high schools. This use is included in the demand and needs analysis of Section Three.

There is one new school planned for 2009; a new high school on Monroe and Los Alamos.

Joint Use Agreements between the City and school districts describe general responsibilities and benefits of each party regarding the use of both City and district facilities. The Agreement and State law allow the school district and the City to cooperate with each other for the purposes of improving facilities and for organizing, promoting, and conducting recreation and education programs for children and adults. Currently, the City and the District are each responsible for the regular maintenance and repair of their respective properties and facilities.

The Joint Use Agreement between the school district and the City is currently under review and being renegotiated at the time of this Master Plan Development; no major changes are anticipated. It will be a five year agreement that shall be automatically renewed on a year to year basis unless sooner terminated by either party. The purpose of the agreement is to cooperate in coordinating programs and activities between the City and the School District. This agreement is authorized pursuant to Education Code section 10905, to promote the health and general welfare of the community and contribute to the attainment of the general recreational objectives for children and adults within the community. Neither party shall generate revenue from using each other's sites. If a program or activity is revenue generating the normal site fees shall apply. Each party shall have first priority for use of their sites giving second priority to each other.

Although games are played at some campuses, school facilities are especially important in providing fields for sports practice. Facilities that are scheduled for games are included in the recreation demand and needs analysis.

2.6 Parks and Recreation Facilities Adjacent to the City

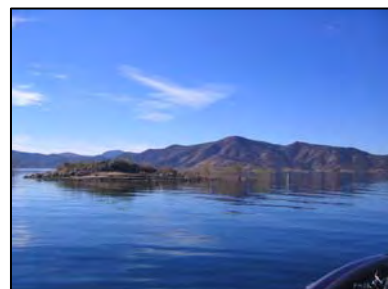
Significant recreational amenities exist in the communities immediately adjacent or nearby the City of Murrieta, offering a diverse set of recreational opportunities. While Murrieta residents may use them, they are not included in the demand and needs analysis. They are:

- Lake Skinner Recreation Area
- Santa Rosa Plateau
- Diamond Valley Lake

Lake Skinner, operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, offers camping, equestrian, fishing, boating, picnicking, hiking, and swimming opportunities.

The Santa Rosa Plateau, a beautiful and ecologically significant area of more than 6,900 acres, is directly adjacent to Murrieta and represents a significant recreation opportunity. The Santa Rosa Plateau is cooperatively owned and managed by several agencies and organizations including the Nature Conservancy, the Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District, the California Department of Fish and Game, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Diamond Valley Lake is located in Hemet and is also operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Metropolitan's Diamond Valley Lake and Lake Skinner are a delicate balance between fun and function. While they each provide Southern California residents exciting boating and fishing opportunities, they are, first and foremost, vital drinking water reservoirs. The water stored in the two reservoirs is enough to serve almost a half million Southern California families for a year. That's why Metropolitan keeps a close eye on any activity on the lakes and in their respective watersheds.



2.7 Private and Commercial Recreation Facilities

Non-public facilities play a large role in meeting the recreational needs of the residents of Murrieta. The array of programs and facilities they provide is substantial. Some programs are offered through the City, others are not. The network of private facilities within the City is made up of businesses, churches, clubs, private schools, homeowner Associations, organizations, and golf courses.



This Master Plan Update does not provide a detailed inventory of private and commercial facilities since the City neither controls, maintains, ensures availability, nor programs them. These recreation resources are therefore not credited toward satisfaction of the City's acreage or facility goals for public parks. However, as they do fill a recreation role, these facilities may individually be able to address certain specific identified needs in the City of Murrieta.

Private Recreation Facilities

There are three homeowner's association parks in Murrieta; Vintage Knoll Park, Greer Ranch Park, and Picket Fences Park. Bear Creek Gated Community and Warm Springs Gated Community also contain private recreation facilities. These facilities often include pools, tennis courts, recreation rooms, or basketball courts.

Commercial Recreation Facilities

Several commercial operations provide recreational, sports, or exercise opportunities in and around Murrieta. These resources are not credited toward the City's acreage or facility quantity goals.

- Bear Creek Golf Course (Course and clubhouse are private, members only)
- Brunswick Cal Oaks Bowl
- Colony Golf Course (public)
- Mulligan Family Fun Center
- Murrieta Valley Golf Range
- The SCGA Golf Course (open to the public)
- Sportsland, Inc (roller hockey rink)
- Temecula Creek Golf Course

2.8 Opportunity Sites

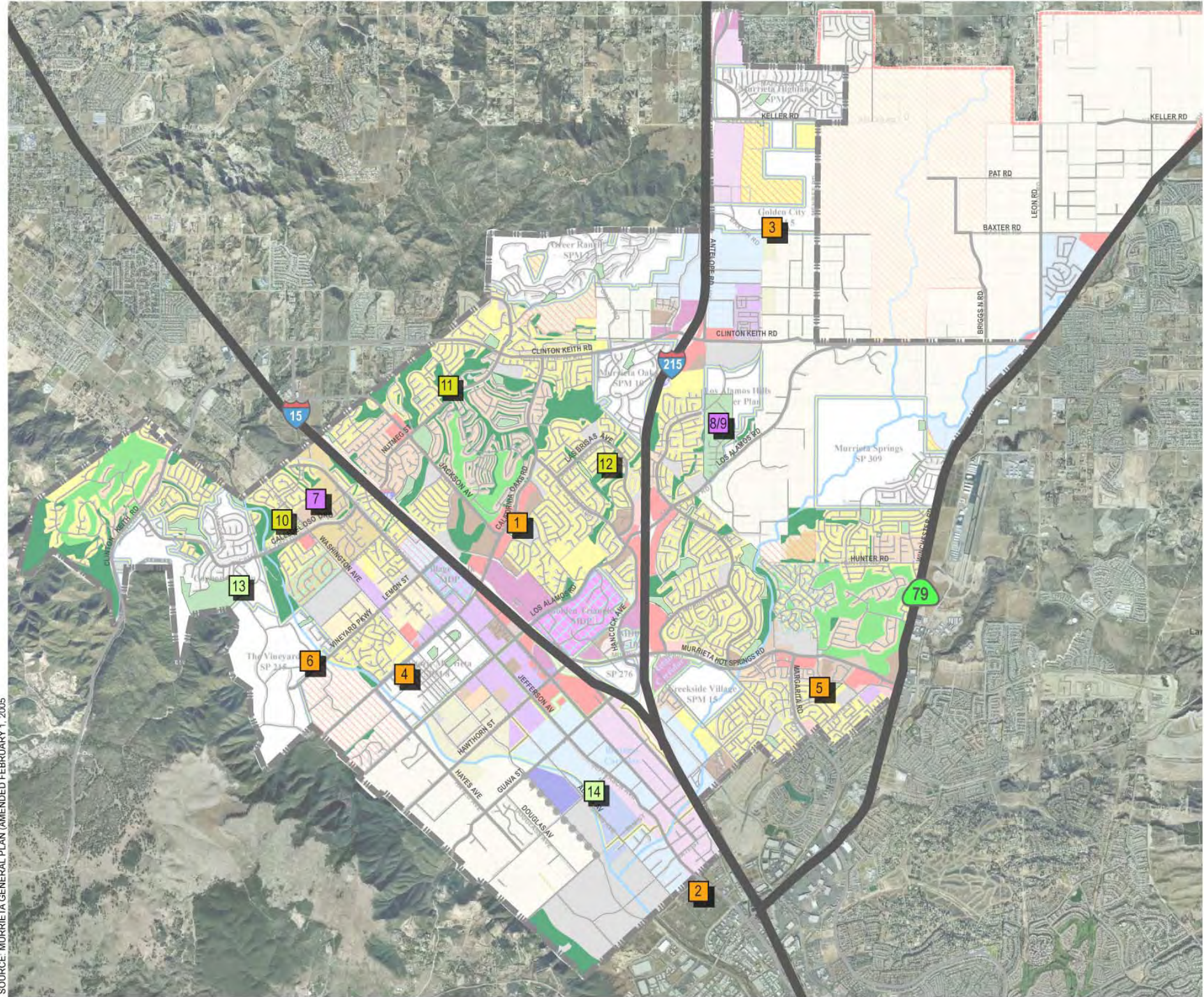
Throughout this Master Plan process numerous sites have been evaluated for the potential to provide recreational opportunities in the community. Several “opportunity sites” are currently planned as developer-built parks. Many are unplanned vacant park sites, and some are currently utilized for other purposes but may become available for recreational use in the future.

There are three (3) categories of opportunity sites indicated:

- **Planned (Designed and Not Designed):** These sites are planned to be parks and have been designed but not yet built, or they are planned but a facility design has not yet been approved.
- **Unplanned:** These sites are potential public recreation facilities that would require negotiation, dedication, or planning revisions to secure their use as parks.
- **Acquisition Sites:** These sites are potential public recreation facilities that would require acquisition.

Recommendations with respect to these opportunity sites are described in Section Five. Locations are shown on Exhibit 2.8-1.

Exhibit 2.8-1: Opportunity Sites



LEGEND

PLANNED FACILITIES

- Designed
- 1 California Oaks Sports Park Expansion - Phase 3
 - 2 Cherry Street Park
 - 3 Golden Cities Park
 - 4 Second Avenue Park
 - 5 Torrey Pines Park
 - 6 Vineyards Park
- Not Designed
- 7 Grizzly Ridge Park
 - 8 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion - Phase 2
 - 9 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion - Phase 3

UNPLANNED FACILITIES

- 10 Calle Del Oso Oro Site
- 11 City Parcel/Nutmeg
- 12 City Parcel/Calle San Vicente

ACQUISITION SITES

- 13 Vineyard Specific Plan - Developer Property
- 14 Water District Property - Pony Baseball Fields

SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

DATE: 11/20/08

RJM
DESIGN GROUP INC.
PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
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TEL: (951) 495-2600 FAX: (951) 495-2600 E-MAIL: RJD@RJMDSGROUP.COM

EXHIBIT 2.8-1 OPPORTUNITY SITES

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

CITY OF MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

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Section Three

3.0 RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The purpose of the recreation facility needs assessment process is to identify the current and future recreation facility needs within Murrieta, to identify recreation demand that is unmet, and to suggest the relative priority of each identified need. Needs were identified and prioritized by engaging the community in a series of community outreach forums and other needs identification tools listed below. The process involved gathering both qualitative input (e.g. workshops and focus groups) and quantitative input (e.g. telephone survey, sports organization survey, facility demand analysis). Qualitative input is the voice of the community; and quantitative input is statistically valid information. Using only qualitative feedback as a basis for the number, type, and location of recreation facilities ignores the fact that such feedback may not be representative of the entire community and also may not quantify facility needs beyond "more". Each needs identification tool and each bit of information gathered is a piece of the recreation puzzle leading to a more thorough understanding of the community. All of the pieces, taken together, provide an overall picture of recreation facility needs specific to Murrieta now and in the future.

The following methods and processes (needs identification tools) were utilized in the facility needs assessment and will be addressed in this section:

Section Three Highlights:

- Twelve (12) different needs identification tools were used to identify the City's recreation facility and program needs.
- Community outreach included 3 public workshops and a community-wide telephone survey.
- Seven (7) organized sports groups filled out questionnaires regarding usage and needs.
- The City currently has a parkland acreage deficit of 215 acres.
- Sports fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, gymnasiums, skate park, off leash dog areas, and trails are some of the identified needs in Murrieta.

Community Outreach: Information was gathered from Murrieta residents and stakeholders through a variety of methods including: a series of three (3) community workshops, a staff focus group, a community stakeholders focus group, and a sports organization survey.

Community-Wide Telephone Survey: The telephone survey reveals current, statistically valid information specific to Murrieta that reveals detailed information on the types of recreation facilities and programs most often utilized by Murrieta residents. A total of 300 randomly selected, geographically distributed telephone interviews were completed with the adult head of the household.

Recreation Facility Demand and Needs Analysis: Quantitative evaluation of Murrieta facility needs based on actual participation and facility usage collected from the statistically valid telephone survey, facility inventory, relevant demographics, and sports organization survey.

Service Area Analysis: Evaluation of where parks and recreation facilities are distributed throughout residential areas in Murrieta.

Acreage Analysis: Evaluation of parkland acreage needs in Murrieta based on a goal of 5 acres per thousand residents, identified recreation needs, and available supply.

Program Needs Analysis: Evaluation of recreation program needs (see Section Four) that generates facility needs.

Trends Analysis: Evaluation of societal trends and associated recreation implications.

3.1 Community Outreach

The community outreach portion of the Needs Assessment provided a number of opportunities to obtain perspective from residents, users of facilities and programs, and providers of facilities and programs. Within this section, the community outreach effort has been organized into seven (7) separate needs identification tools, they are:

- Community Workshop
#1 – Community Characteristics and Issues
- Workshop Participant Questionnaire
- Community Workshop
#2 – Sports Facilities
- Staff Focus Group
- Community Stakeholder Focus Group
- Community Workshop
#3 – Program and Facility Needs Prioritization
- Sports Organization Survey



Another needs identification tool included in the community outreach effort, the Citywide Telephone Survey, is discussed separately in Section 3.2. The information received from each of these sources has been included in the overall prioritization of needs and recommendations. A brief summary of each community input is provided below, and the complete summary is included in the Appendix document.

Community Workshop #1 – Community Characteristics and Issues



The first community workshop was held on February 12, 2008. Forty-six (46) residents attended the workshop. The purpose of Workshop #1 was to identify what the residents of Murrieta like about the City's parks and recreation programs, and identify what could be improved. Workshop participants also came up with a future 'vision' for the Parks and Recreation Department.

According to the workshop participants, the best features of the parks and recreation facilities in Murrieta are:

- They are clean and maintained
- Locations and size
- Multi-use facilities
- Open spaces and trails



The most important improvements that the workshop participants would make to Murrieta's parks and recreation facilities are:

- Growth/Overdevelopment
- Traffic (need better public transit)
- Loss of hillsides/ridgelines

All of the workshop participants created the following vision statement for Parks & Recreation in Murrieta in the year 2018:

- Premiere recreation programs that offer integrated, environmentally responsible, and family-oriented activities for everyone in the community.

Workshop Participant **Questionnaire**

During the community workshop on February 12, 2008 workshop participants were asked to complete a questionnaire soliciting their input on Parks and Recreation. There were (46) workshop participants and (43) completed the questionnaire. The following is a brief summary of their responses. A complete summary can be found in the Appendix document. Percentages were calculated from the total number of responses for each individual question.

Tennis Courts, Skate Parks and BMX facilities were reported as the facilities that are used the most often. The park most frequently visited is Los Alamos Sports Park. The most frequent response was the need for a BMX only park and a lighted tennis complex. Also mentioned was upgrading or expanding the Murrieta skate park.

Community Workshop **#2 – Sports Facilities**

The second community workshop was held on Thursday, February 21, 2008. Forty-Five (45) sports group representatives and residents attended this workshop. This workshop identified the best and worst sports facilities in Murrieta, the most important sports facility needs, and helped to identify opportunities to address those needs.

According to the workshop participants the best sports facilities in Murrieta are:

- California Oaks Sports Park due to the multi-use amenities available (swimming, skate park, tennis & basketball), lighted fields, and the special events area.

- Los Alamos Hills Sports Park due to the multi-use amenities available (running track and horse trails), lighted fields, and diversity.
- Alta Murrieta Sports Park due to the multi-use amenities, well maintained, and safe.

The workshop participants stated that the worst sports facilities in Murrieta are:

- Mountain Pride Park due to no restrooms, no parking, and bad design.
- California Oaks Sports Park due to poor maintenance, unsafe parking, and skate park is unsupervised. [Note: The City has since implemented a safety program that includes supervised hours at the skate park.]
- Rancho Acacia Park due to no restrooms, and sloped fields.

The top sport facility needs in Murrieta are:

- An Indoor Multi-Use Facility for indoor sports, gymnastics, and dances.
- Lighted Soccer Fields
- Lighted Softball / Baseball Fields
- BMX Facility
- Swimming Pool
- Frisbee Golf Course

Some opportunities to meet current and future sports facility needs are:

- Public/Private partnerships (investors, commercial donations, professional sports teams)
- Develop vacant land (developer land, land on west side of town, Los Alamos Hills Sports Park land)
- Grants

The most important improvements the workshop participants would make to Murrieta's park and recreation network are:

- Add lighting on sports fields/courts
- Provide parking at parks
- Supervision

Staff Focus Group

A discussion session with City staff members was held on November 29, 2007.

When asked what are the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department's greatest strengths and assets in meeting the needs of residents, the most common responses included:

- Community Events
- Park Maintenance

Consensus responses indicate that the most important recreation issues include:

- Lack of specialty facilities such as a dog park, Frisbee golf course, teen center, and water recreation.
- Graffiti and vandalism in parks; cost of maintenance and repairs; challenge to respond/repair within 24 hours

The greatest constraints/challenges in meeting the needs of residents are:

- Lack of land available
- Lack of money/funding

Participants expressed their Vision for parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services in 2018:

- Parks, facilities, and programs to serve everyone
- Parks and facilities distributed throughout the community



When asked what was one recreation facility staff would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- A community center with a gymnasium
- An aquatic facility/pool complex

When asked what needs to be done to accomplish these improvements the consensus responses included:

- Money/Funding (grants, taxes, fundraising, sponsorships, assessments, bonds)
- Community and Council support
- Set goals and priorities



Community Stakeholders Focus Group

A discussion session with members of local organizations and community leaders was held on November 29, 2007.

Consensus responses indicate that the most important recreation issues include:

- Lack of lighted sports fields
- Lack of community center/multi-use indoor facility

When asked how can parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services for community residents improve, responses included:

- Provide more specialty facilities

Participants expressed their Vision for parks, recreation facilities, open space, and recreation services in 2018:

- Appropriate, well maintained, clean, and safe park facilities
- Serve all ages and the whole community
- Connected trails throughout the City
- 'Green' Technology

When asked what was one recreation facility they would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- Aquatic center
- Connected trails

When asked what need to be done to accomplish the improvements the consensus responses included:

- Funding
- Clear vision
- Leadership

Community Workshop #3 – Needs Summary and Prioritization

On September 17, 2008, members of the Murrieta community and participants from previous workshops were invited to an overview of the Master Plan process, and summary of the recreation facility and program needs in the City. Participants discussed relative priority of needs.

According to workshop participants, the top recreation facilities needed in Murrieta are:

- Dog Park
- Trail Network
- Indoor Multi-Use Facility

Sports Organization Survey

To supplement the information regarding participation in organized sports which was obtained from the citywide telephone survey, a questionnaire was designed and distributed to the organized sports organizations that use the City facilities. This survey obtained information regarding the number of players and teams in the league or sports organization, age ranges of the players, what seasons they play, if they travel outside Murrieta to play, if they participate in tournaments, ratings of field/facility maintenance and scheduling, projections of growth and facilities they have the greatest need for both now and in the future. Detailed information was requested for each division in the group regarding the number of players, the size of facility required and the time and place of all games and practices.

The survey was distributed by the City staff and seven (7) sports organizations responded to the questionnaire, including two (Adult Soccer and Softball) for which the league is run by the City of Murrieta. In addition, City staff provided basic information regarding four other sports organizations which did not respond to the survey. Some of the more factual information is summarized in Exhibit 3.1-1. The information regarding the number of players, size of teams, seasonality and turnover of facilities for both games and practice are used to better define peak day demand and convert that to number of facilities required to meet the needs of this segment of the recreation market. Information regarding which of the facilities are currently being used by the sports groups provides input to the inventory of sports facilities regarding usage for adult sports, youth sports and practices.

Murrieta Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Recreation Facility Needs Assessment

TABULATION OF INFORMATION FROM MURRIETA SPORTS ORGANIZATION SURVEY

Sport/Team (% of Participants from Murrieta)	# Players	Season	Ages	Game Fields/Courts Used	Practice Fields/Courts Used
<u>Youth Baseball</u>					
Murrieta National Little League (90%)*	750	Feb. - June	N.A.	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park	N.A.
Murrieta Valley Pony League (85%)*	850	Feb. - June	N.A.	Pony Fields, Alta, Copper Canyon	N.A.
<u>Youth Softball</u>					
Murrieta Valley Girls Softball (90%)*	450	Feb. - June	N.A.	Cal Oaks Sports Park	N.A.
<u>Adult Softball</u>					
City of Murrieta Adult Softball (75%)	520	Aug. - Nov.	18-45	Cal Oaks Sports Park - Field 1	N.A.
Sunday - Co-ed	110				
Tuesday - Mens	100				
Wednesday - Co-ed	90				
Thursday - Mens	110				
Friday - Co-ed	110				
<u>Youth Football</u>					
Murrieta Junior All American Football (70%)	255	Sept.-Nov.	7-14	Vista Murrieta High School	Vista Murrieta High School Practice Field
Jr. Micros	30		7-8		
Micros	55		8-10		
Jr. Pee Wees	85		8-11		
Pee wees	55		11-13		
Midgets	30		12-14		
Murrieta Valley Pop Warner Football (95%)	715	Aug.-Dec.	5-14	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park
Flag	90		5-7	Murrieta Valley High School	Alta Murrieta Sports Park
Jr. Mitey Mite	34		7-8		
Mitey Mite	126		7-9		
Jr. Pee Wees	130		8-10		
Pee wees	130		9-11		
Jr. Midgets	130		10-12		
Midgets	75		11-14		
<u>Youth Soccer</u>					
AYSO 1463 Murrieta (63%)	924	Sept.-Nov.	4-15	John Blanche Soccer Complex	Local Parks Schools
u 5	106		4		
u 6	200		5		
u 8	200		6-7		
u 10	200		8-9		
u 12	100		10-11		
u 14	100		12-13		
u 16	18		14-15		
Murrieta Youth Soccer League (91%)		Sept.-Dec.	4-18	Tonashal Elementary (2 fields)	LAHSP (6 fields), Antelope Hills,
u 5/u 6	260	Mar.-May	4-5	Rail Ranch	Thompson (2 fields), Cal Oaks #3,
u 8	300		6-7	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (6 fields)	Rail Ranch, Rancho Acacia,
u 10	250		8-9		Valley Vista Park, Buchanan Elem.,
u 12	225		10-11		Cole Canyon, Murrieta Elem.,
u 14	175		12-13		Copper Canyon, Mountain Pride,
u 18	125		14-17		Shady Maple, Carson Park,
FCM (club)	320		7-18		Warm Springs Middle,
<u>Adult Soccer</u>					
City of Murrieta - Adult Soccer (50%)	380	Aug.-Nov.	18-45	Los Alamos Hills Sports Park	N.A.
Co-ed	140				
Womens	140				
Mens	100				
<u>Youth Basketball</u>					
Murrieta Youth Basketball League (90%)*	700	Dec. - March	N.A.	Middle School Gyms (3)	N.A.
<u>Other Organizations</u>					
SW YMCA (Basketball & Flag Football - 50%)	235	Year Round	Grades	Rail Ranch Elementary (Flag Football)	Rail Ranch, Shivela Middle,
Cadet	38		1st	Shivela Elementary (Basketball)	Alta Murrieta, Willow Park,
Prep	50		2nd & 3rd		Bahia Vista Park, Birdsall Park (Pay),
Elementary	77		4th & 5th		and Others
Junior	70		6th - 8th		

*Note: Completed Surveys were not received from these Sports Organizations. Information for these organizations was obtained from City Staff.

Sources: Murrieta Sports Organization Survey, 2008.
Compiled by Coman Consulting, Inc.

murfield survey - 7/15/08

Another question addresses the percentage of the players in each organization that live within the City of Murrieta. This varies widely by type of sport and in Murrieta several of the sports organizations have a fairly large number of participants who reside outside of Murrieta. The results are tabulated below:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Percent of Players from Murrieta</u>
Murrieta National Little League	90.0
Murrieta Valley Pony League	85.0
City of Murrieta Adult Softball	75.0
Murrieta Junior All American Football	70.0
Murrieta Valley Pop Warner Football	95.0
AYSO 1463 Murrieta	63.0
Murrieta Youth Soccer League	91.0
City of Murrieta Adult Soccer	50.0
Murrieta Youth Basketball League	90.0
SW YMCA Basketball & Flag Football	50.0

The impact of non-resident use of City facilities is one of the considerations in assessing facility needs.

Additional, more qualitative, information regarding respondents rating and comments on facility maintenance and scheduling, assessment of usage fees and the perceived needs for additional facilities both currently and in the future as well as desired enhancements in future facilities are summarized in the Appendix document. These responses will be used by City staff to better understand the usage patterns and needs of the active sports groups.

3.2 Community-Wide Telephone Survey

A total of 300 interviews were completed with adult head of households living in the Murrieta Valley. These respondents were contacted through the use of a random digit dial sample. This sample methodology compensates for the incidence of unlisted telephone numbers. Eligibility was confirmed within the survey instrument by adding a screening question, eliminating those contacts that were not residents of the City of Murrieta.

These 10-minute interviews were conducted via telephone by professional interviewers during the February 2008 fielding of the resident telephone survey using direct-entry computer technology. All interviews conducted among Murrieta residents were edited by skilled supervisors of the field organization and 10% were validated for accuracy.

The sample error for a sample size of 300 ranges from +/-2.5% to +/-5.8% (depending on the response distribution) at the 95% confidence level. This means that if we were to survey every household in Murrieta, we are confident that, 95% of the time, the results for a question would differ by less than 5.8 percentage points from the results derived from this sample.

A similar survey was conducted by the same research company in 1997, providing interesting points of comparison with this 2008 survey.

Responses to the survey questions provide vital information, including:

Frequency of Use: Four of every ten (40%) of Murrieta households reported being a frequent user of park and recreation facilities (utilizing recreation facilities at least three (3) times a month). This compares to a 41% frequent use share of respondents to the 1997 Murrieta survey and a 44% frequent use share among an average of 32 other municipalities.

Another forty percent (40%) of Murrieta residents described themselves as moderate users (patrons of facilities two to twenty-four times annually).

Most Used Facility: California Oaks Sports Park was reported as the most often used park by the highest percentage of households (32%). Los Alamos Hills Park, Senior Center, Firefighters Park, Shady Maple Park, and Calle Cipres Park were also mentioned often.

Most Common Recreation Activities: Of the fourteen (14) activities tested in the survey, the largest share of the population reported participation during the last year in: Walking/Jogging/Running on Public Trails for Active Recreation or Fitness (42%), Picnicking in Picnic Table Sites at Public Parks (34%), Walking or Exercising a Dog at a Dog Park Area (24%), Bicycling on Public Trails or Paths for Active Recreation or Fitness (23%), Use of Play Equipment/Tot Lots in Public Parks (19%), and Swimming in Public Pools for Recreation, Lessons, and Physical Fitness (17%).

Activities Location: Murrieta is the location for at least 80% of all reported recreation activities.

Outdoor Facilities Maintenance: Nearly all respondents (97%) indicated that they are either "Very Satisfied" (72%) or "Somewhat Satisfied" (25%) when asked how satisfied they are with maintenance of outdoor parks and recreation facilities. Responses were similar with respect to indoor facilities.

Most Desired Facility: The active recreation facilities cited as most desired by Murrieta residents surveyed were Walking/Jogging Paths/Trails (8%), Dog Park (6%), and Indoor Swimming Pool for Recreation (5%). Three percent (3%) most desired Bike Trails/Paths, Water Park, More Parks, Swimming Pool for Recreation or Lessons, Softball Fields, Soccer Fields, Skating Facility, Community Center for Classes, Teen and Youth Club Facility, Ice Rink, and Baseball Fields.

One in six (16%) indicated their household members have no new recreation facilities needs.

A key element of the telephone survey is information that generates participation rates in each of fourteen (14) recreational activities. These participation rates are analyzed in the recreation demand and needs analysis (Section 3.3), where facility demand is calculated in relationship to the population served.

The full Resident Telephone Survey report is found in the Appendix.

3.3 Recreation Facility Demand and Needs Analysis

This section summarizes the evaluation of demand for fourteen (14) recreation and park activities based upon actual participation rates as determined by the residents of Murrieta. A key element in any park and recreation planning strategy is an understanding of the nature of demand for parks and recreation facilities. Without this understanding, policy can only be based on general standards, such as population ratios (acres per thousand population) or service area (distance to park facility). Such standards are useful, but the demand analysis guarantees that the needs assessment reflects Murrieta specifically.

The National Recreation and Park Association, in their 1983 update to the publication *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*, states: "Park and recreation services are community services." Ideally, the national standards should stand the test in communities of all sizes. However, the reality often makes it difficult or inadvisable to apply national standards without question to specific locales. The uniqueness of every community, due to differing geographical, cultural, climatic, and socioeconomic characteristics, makes it imperative that every community develop its *own* standards for recreation, parks and open space."

The information used to calculate community demand for recreation facilities comes from four sources:

- The Communitywide Telephone Survey
- Murrieta Population Projections
- Sports Organization Survey
- California State Department of Parks and Recreation

The telephone survey provides a statistically valid basis for determining how the residents of Murrieta participate in recreation activities. The participation rates in recreation activities from the survey constitute a quantitative basis for the demand analysis that is used in calculating the current need for facilities.

The nature of growth and population change establishes trends in demand for recreation and leisure services. These population projections, together with the survey results describing participation rates for various demographic measures, is the basis for a quantitative projection of future facility needs.

In terms of sports facilities, it should be noted that the analysis pertains to participation in sports games on game fields, for which quantitative inventory is possible. This information is obtained in part from the sports organization survey. Participation in sports practices and evaluation of practice field demand is not included, in part because practices often occur on informal, non-regulation facilities.

Further, it is assumed that practices can occur on game fields during non-peak portions of the season. Based on the responses received from the sports organization survey there appears to be a need for additional practice fields in baseball, softball, football, and soccer.

The sports organization survey obtained information regarding the number of players and teams in each league or sports organization, age ranges of the players, what seasons they play, if they travel outside Murrieta to play, if they participate in tournaments, ratings of field/facility maintenance and scheduling, projections of growth, and facilities they have the greatest need for both now and in the future. Detailed information was requested for each division in the sport regarding the number of players, the size of facility required, and the time and place of all games and practices.

This information is used as a supplement to the telephone survey results and as a means to better define peak day demand (number of participants who will be involved in a given activity on the busiest day of the year) and convert that to the number of facilities required to meet the needs of this segment of the recreation market. Information regarding which of the existing facilities are currently being used by the sports groups provides an understanding of the inventory of sports facilities regarding usage for adult sports, youth sports, and practices.

Recreation Facility Requirements

The demand for certain recreation facilities is calculated based upon actual participation rates as determined from the telephone survey. The facility demand for each of the selected activities is determined based upon current and future population figures. The total facility demand is compared to the existing facility inventory which results in a surplus or deficit.

Of the fourteen (14) activities surveyed two were identified as having a current surplus of facilities (youth softball and Tot Lots/Playgrounds) the remainder show current deficits (see Exhibit 3.3-1).

Exhibit 3.3-1: Current (2008) Facility Needs

CITY OF MURRIETA RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS - 2008 ESTIMATE

Facility	Facility Need Ratio - City of Murrieta	2008 Needs	Existing City Facilities	Surplus/ Deficit(-)	School Facilities Avail.*	Other Facilities Avail.	Total Facilities Avail.	Total Surplus/ Deficit(-)
Softball Fields:								
Organized Youth	1/23,900 pop.	4.2	5	0.8	0	0	5	0.8
Organized Adult	1/52,100 pop.	1.9	1	-0.9	0	0	1	-0.9
Baseball Fields:								
Organized Youth	1/6,400 pop.	15.7	7	-8.7	0	0	7	-8.7
Football Fields								
Organized Youth	1/16,100 pop.	6.2	4	-2.2	2 ***	0	6	-0.2
Soccer Fields								
Organized Youth	1/4,350 pop.	22.9	6	-16.9	4	0	10	-12.9
Picnic Tables	1/649 pop.	154	134	-20	0	0	134	-20
Tot Lots/Playgrounds	1/3,400 pop.	29.3	33	3.7	3	0	36	6.7
Swimming Pools (Public)								
Recreational	1/61,100 pop.	1.6	0.5 **	-1.1	0	0	0.5	-1.1
Tennis Courts	1/3,200 pop.	31.4	3	-28.4	0	0	3	-28.4
Indoor Basketball Cts.:								
Organized Youth	1/22,750 pop.	4.4	0	-4.4	3	0	3	-1.4
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	1/4,600 pop.	21.7	14.6	-7.1	0	0	14.6	-7.1
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	1/4,900 pop.	20.5	14.6	-5.9	0	0	14.6	-5.9
Skate Board Park	1/52,250 pop.	1.9	1	-0.9	0	0	1	-0.9
Dog Park	1/33,300 pop.	3.0	0	-3.0	0	0	0.0	-3.0

* School facilities other than ballfields/courts are counted at 50 percent to allow for time not available to the public.

**One Pool = 25 meters x 25 yards, or 6,150 square feet.

***Football leagues schedule games at school fields directly with the School District, not through the Murrieta Parks and Recreation Department.

Source: Coman Consulting, Inc., based on data from California State Department of Parks and Recreation and the Murrieta Recreation Needs Assessment Survey, March 2008.

mur/demand - 11/18/08

Similar calculations were carried out to determine the demand levels at build-out of the City, when the City will reach a projected population of 120,000. Adjustments were made to some of the participation rates for the build-out projection based on the trends in the demographic profile of the City. It is anticipated that there will be a slight decline in the proportion of children under 10, a larger percentage of adults in the 21 to 35 and 45 to 55 age brackets, and a more diverse ethnic mix. The adjustments are based on the same data base which was used to estimate the current year participation rates – the cross-tabulations of telephone survey data regarding participation rates and demographic measures. Deficits will increase (see Exhibit 3.3-2) as the population grows to ultimate build-out unless facilities are added.

Exhibit 3.3-2: Facility Needs at Build-Out

CITY OF MURRIETA RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS - BUILDOUT PROJECTION								
Facility	Facility Need Ratio - City of Murrieta	Buildout Needs	Existing City Facilities	Surplus/ Deficit(-)	School Facilities Avail.*	Other Facilities Avail.	Total Facilities Avail.	Total Surplus/ Deficit(-)
Softball Fields:								
Organized Youth	1/23,900 pop.	4.6	5	0.4	0	0	5	0.4
Organized Adult	1/52,100 pop.	2.5	1	-1.5	0	0	1	-1.5
Baseball Fields:								
Organized Youth	1/6,400 pop.	17.6	7	-10.6	0	0	7	-10.6
Football Fields								
Organized Youth	1/16,100 pop.	7.0	4	-3.0	2 ***	0	6	-1.0
Soccer Fields								
Organized Youth	1/4,350 pop.	26.6	6	-20.6	4	0	10	-16.6
Picnic Tables	1/649 pop.	185	134	-51	0	0	134	-51
Tot Lots/Playgrounds	1/3,400 pop.	33.9	33	-0.9	3	0	36	2.1
Swimming Pools (Public)								
Recreational	1/61,100 pop.	2.0	0.5 **	-1.5	0	0	0.5	-1.5
Tennis Courts	1/3,200 pop.	39.7	3	-36.7	0	0	3	-36.7
Indoor Basketball Cts.:								
Organized Youth	1/22,750 pop.	5.3	0	-5.3	3	0	3	-2.3
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	1/4,600 pop.	25.9	14.6	-11.3	0	0	14.6	-11.3
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	1/4,900 pop.	24.6	14.6	-10.0	0	0	14.6	-10.0
Skate Board Park	1/52,250 pop.	2.2	1	-1.2	0	0	1	-1.2
Dog Park	1/33,300 pop.	3.6	0	-3.6	0	0	0.0	-3.6

* School facilities other than ballfields/courts are counted at 50 percent to allow for time not available to the public.
 **One Pool = 25 meters x 25 yards, or 6,150 square feet.
 ***Football leagues schedule games at school fields directly with the School District, not through the Murrieta Parks and Recreation Department.

Source: Coman Consulting, Inc., based on data from California State Department of Parks and Recreation and the Murrieta Recreation Needs Assessment Survey, March 2008.

mur/demand - 11/18/08



The largest deficit numbers at build-out are anticipated as follows:

- Adult softball (1.5)
- Baseball Fields (10.6)
- Football Fields (1.0)
- Soccer fields (16.6)
- Swimming Pools (1.5)
- Tennis Courts (36.7)
- Gymnasiums to include Indoor Youth Basketball Courts (2.3)
- Walking/Jogging Paths (11.3 miles)
- Bicycling Paths (10.0 miles)
- Skateboard Park (1.2)
- Dog Park/Off Leash Dog Areas (3.6)

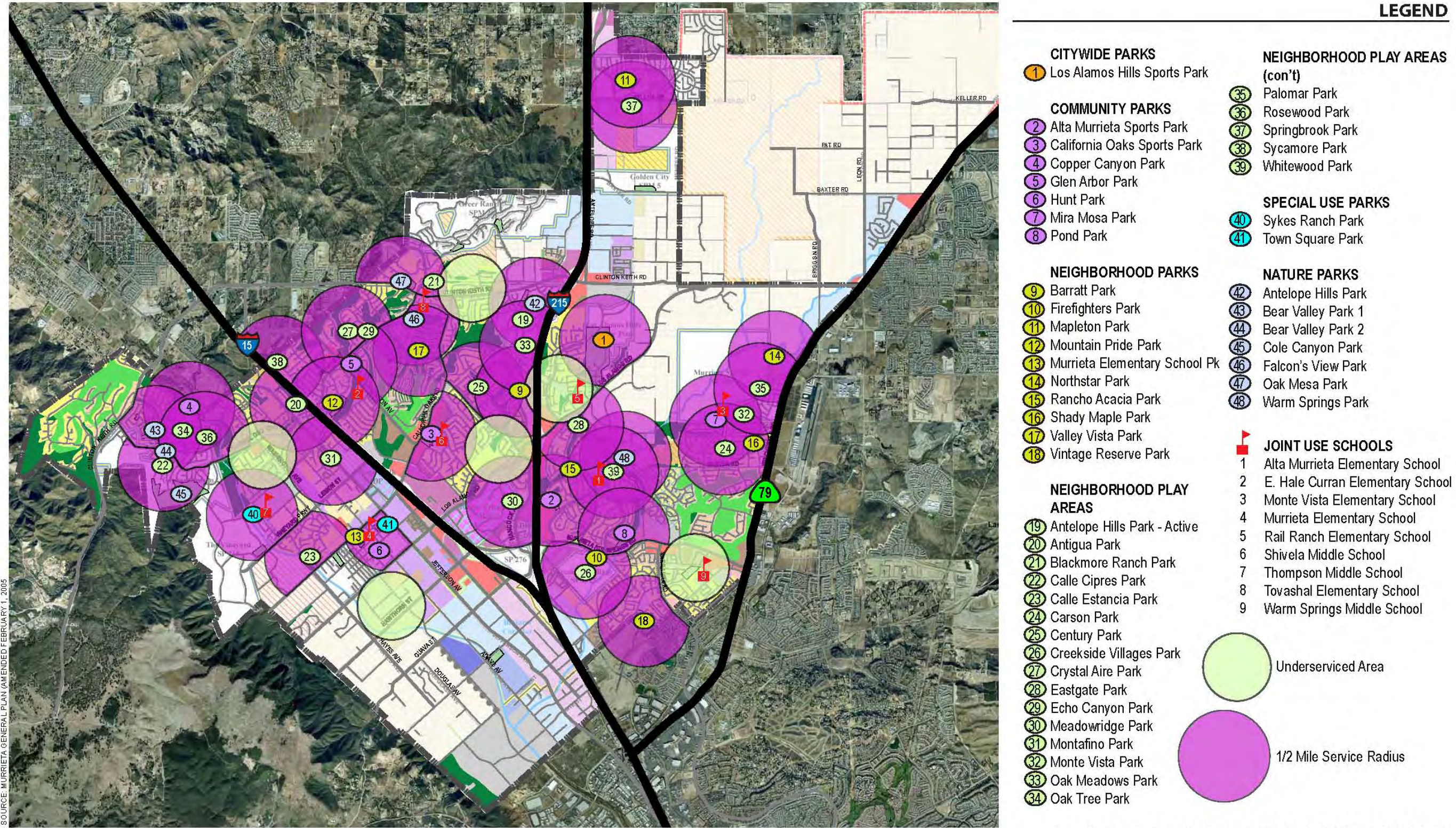
Perhaps the most significant future deficits relative to availability of parkland are sports fields. It should be noted that a factor is included in demand calculations to account for resting of sports fields; 20% of availability is assumed for resting and recovery of fields.

3.4 Service Area Analysis

In addition to providing appropriate quantities and types of recreation facilities, the City strives to provide them in useful and appropriate locations. Service Area Analysis was conducted with respect to all City parks.

Proximity to parks is more than a convenience issue. It helps to establish an excellent City park system by providing improved air quality, circulation, social opportunities, community identity, and community health benefits. Proximity to parkland is one of the elements identified as predicting levels of physical activity in the community, and a survey of U.S. adults finds that people with access to neighborhood parks were nearly twice as likely to be physically active as those without access to parks.

Exhibit 3.4-1: 1/2 Mile Service Area Analysis



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Further, 43% of people with safe places to walk within ten minutes of home met recommended activity levels, while just 27% of those without safe places to walk were active enough to meet recommended activity levels (Active Living by Design, Land Use Fact Sheet).

One-half (.5) mile is approximately a 20-minute walk for most people. It is generally considered a significant threshold in distance, beyond which some segments of the population will tend to decline walking opportunities. Therefore, most residences should be within one-half mile, a convenient walkable distance for most people, of a neighborhood park or other park that may satisfy common recreation needs. This .5 mile radius around parks and recreational facilities is defined as a neighborhood park "service area". This service area emphasis is key in a community in which families, neighborhoods, and active living are central issues, and is supported by the Conservation and Open Space Element of the City's General Plan:

Distribute park land such that all geographic areas of the City will be located within the service radii of local parks.

-COS-7.1d

And:

Plan for maximum pedestrian and bicycle access to existing and new parks as an alternative to automobile access.

-1999 Master Plan, Section Five Policy

To analyze the extent to which the distribution of existing Murrieta facilities is appropriate, a service area radius map is provided (see Exhibit 3.4-1). Circular service area radii are generated with the park location as the central radius point. Geographical or other physical obstructions should be considered in analysis of actual service area, so service area shapes are not necessarily full circles

but may be truncated to reflect a major barrier, such as an arterial roadway. When areas zoned for residential use fall outside graphic service area designations, it can be said that the area may be underserved by the existing parks.

The service area analysis demonstrates that there are six (6) residential areas outside of the established .5 mile service radius from a developed neighborhood park:

- Two (2) areas within the "Y" between the 15 and 215
- One (1) area west of 15, south of Calle del Oso
- One (1) area west of the 15, between Los Alamos Rd. and Hawthorn St.
- One (1) area north of Hayes and Hawthorne
- One (1) area east of Margarita

Gaps in service can be addressed by adding a new facility, expanding existing facilities, or by making available an existing facility, such as a school, that has not been previously available for recreation. For example, in the area east of Margarita there is a planned park, Torrey Pines Park, that could fill this gap in service.

There are additional rural, low-density residential areas not within .5 mile of a public park, primarily in the Bear Creek area and the northeastern area (including the sphere of influence). This Bear Creek area is not considered a priority gap area because of the large residential parcels and availability of private open space for recreation. The northeastern area and sphere of influence land is not considered a priority gap because the residential areas are not fully developed.

3.5 Acreage Analysis

The City of Murrieta strives to provide 5 acres of local parkland per thousand residents, as established in the 1994 General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element, Policy COS-7.1a.

This policy raises several questions: Are there currently 5 acres of parkland per thousand residents? If not, how many more acres are needed now and in the future to keep pace with growth? Is the goal of a minimum of 5 acres per

thousand enough parkland to accommodate all identified future recreation demands? The following discussion addresses these questions, examining the issue of parkland acreage from two standpoints: 1) overall City-wide acreage needs as compared to the parkland acreage standard and 2) acreage needs as calculated based on identified recreation facility needs.

City-wide Parkland Acreage Based on Acreage Standard

In general, a parkland acreage standard is the ratio upon which development fees and/or dedications can be based. Establishment of a standard creates an obligation to fund improvements that achieve the standard throughout the City. Five (5) acres / 1,000 is the highest standard allowed under the provisions of the Quimby Act, a State law that gives the City its authority to require fees or dedicated property to offset new development impacts on recreation facilities. Establishment of a standard does not necessarily limit the City in the acceptance of negotiated fees or property as conditions of approval for future development.

On the other hand, a parkland acreage goal can be higher than the standard, reflecting a community's desire or need for additional parkland. A City's acreage goal represents a self-imposed target that provides a planning guideline without a formal commitment to fund achievement of the goal.

The 1994 General Plan and the 1999 Park and Recreation Master Plan both included all parks (except golf courses) and schools (recreation areas only) in acreage analysis totals. This Master Plan does not include schools in the acreage analysis totals since school sites are not always available during non-school hours and the City does not control availability of recreation facilities at the school sites.

Exhibit 3.5-1: Acreage Goal and Quantities

Year	Population	Acres demanded (based on 5 AC/1000)	Local Parkland *	Surplus or (-) Deficit
2008	100,173	501	467	-34
Build-out	120,000**	600	467	-133***
*See table 3.5-2 **Approximate anticipated build out population. ***Represents deficit if no new parkland is added.				

So, how do current parkland quantities compare to the 5 acre per 1000 residents standard? The following points are worth noting:

- A current parkland deficit of 34 acres exists. A future deficit of 133 acres will occur if no new parkland is added and the City continues to grow as anticipated. These are not significant shortages.
- Golf courses, which were not included in the General Plan or previous 1999 Master Plan tables, are not included in acreage totals of this Master Plan. Other commercial recreation facilities are also not included.
- School grounds were credited in the 1999 Master Plan, however they are not included in the acreage totals of this Master Plan update.
- Facilities and populations outside the City area not included in this analysis.
- Some natural, native areas in nature parks are not included in their entirety.
- Private recreation facilities, such as homeowner association parks, are not credited
- If pursued, opportunity sites identified in Section 2 could add over 100 acres of parkland.

The following table illustrates how the local parkland acreage figure in Exhibit 3.5-1 is derived:

	Parkland Acreage Credit toward acreage goal (AC)
City-Wide Parks	
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Phase I	45.0
Community Parks	
Alta Murrieta Sports Park	9.76
California Oaks Sports Park	19.99
Copper Canyon Park	20.94
Glen Arbor Park	18.92
Hunt Park	4.72
Mira Mosa Park	8.1
Pond Park	14.59
Neighborhood Parks	
Barratt Park	8.3
Firefighters Park	3.21
Mapleton Park	9.3
Mountain Pride Park	9.64
Murrieta Elementary School Park	4.26
Northstar Park	14.0
Rancho Acacia Park	10.11
Shady Maple Park	4.79
Valley Vista Park	6.5
Vintage Reserve Park	3.83
Neighborhood Play Area	
Antelope Hills Park	5.31
Antigua Park	2.26
Blackmore Ranch Park	1.14
Calle Cipres Park	1.8
Calle Estancia Park	2.83
Carson Park	0.69
Century Park	3.90
Creekside Village Green Park	4.0
Crystal Aire Park	1.11
Eastgate Park	1.50
Echo Canyon Park	3.07
Meadowridge Park	4.29
Montafino Park	0.76
Monte Vista Park	1.06
Oak Terrace Park	0.20
Oak Tree Park	0.32
Palomar Park	1.75
Rosewood Park	0.41

Neighborhood Play Area (continued)		
	Springbrook Park	0.29
	Sycamore Park	2.66
	Whitewood Park	1.84
Special Use Facilities		
	Sykes Ranch Park	2.61
	Town Square Park	4.22
Nature Parks		
	Antelope Hills Park	0.0
	Bear Valley Park 1	20.14
	Bear Valley Park 2	3.97
	Cole Canyon Park	140.0
	Falcon's View Park	9.37
	Oak Mesa Park	5.98
	Warm Springs Park	23.90
Total		467.24

Parkland Acreage Needed to Accommodate Identified Facility Needs

Based upon the facility needs requirements (See Exhibit 3.3-1 and 3.3-2) the City has current and future needs for sports fields, playgrounds/tot lots, tennis courts, neighborhood parks, and community centers. The future acreage requirement just for these recreational activities is summarized in Table 3.5-2 below.

Table 3.5-2: Acreage Analysis Based on Recreation Elements Needed at Build-Out

Activity	Number Needed*	Acreage Each	Subtotal	Multiplier**	Total Acreage
Softball, adult	2	2.0	4.0	1.5	6.0
Baseball, youth	11	2.5	27.5	1.5	41.3
Football, youth	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.3
Soccer, youth	17	2.0	34.0	1.5	51.0
Playground/Tot Lot	0	0.25	0.0	1.5	0.0
Swimming Pool	2	2.0	4.0	1.5	6.0
Tennis Courts	37	0.2	7.4	1.5	11.1
Basketball, Indoor	2	1.0	2.0	1.5	3.0
Skateboard Facility	1	0.4	0.4	1.5	0.6
Dog Park	3	2.0	6.0	1.5	9.0
Neighborhood Park/Service Gap	6	10.0	60.0	N/A	60.0
Community Center Gap	2	25.0	25.0	N/A	50.0
Total Acreage to Accommodate Facility Needs at Build Out					240.3
<p>*From Exhibit 3.3-2 and Section 3.4</p> <p>**A multiplier is used to account for approximate acreage needed for support elements (parking, buffers, walkways, etc.). The multiplier ratio is the same as used in 1999 Master Plan.</p> <p>Note: Space requirements for fields and courts are the same as used in 1999 Master Plan.</p>					

The sum of 240.3 acres is an approximate figure representing a need to add acreage and/or utilize existing underutilized acreage in order to satisfy known recreation element needs. This number is compared to the acreage deficit generated by adherence to the City's standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents (133 more acres needed). Since the figure from Exhibit 3.5-2 (240.3 acres) is greater than the figure generated by the standard (Figure 3.5-1, 133 acres), it appears that there is a need to establish an acreage goal higher than the City standard to accommodate identified recreation needs.

It should be noted that this acreage analysis does not include an evaluation of need for natural/passive open space, which is addressed by policy established in other documents.

3.6 Program Analysis

A complete recreation program analysis is included in Section Four of this Master Plan. Some of the recommendations have implications for facilities, since many programs require facilities for operation. Facilities or improvements needed to address program needs include:

- Baseball Fields
- Community centers that
 - provide support for youth experiences in a variety of programs, including non-sports activities,
 - address the needs of multi-generational families,
 - provide indoor and outdoor spaces for supervised free play,
 - allow for expanded youth programs and services, including teen dances,
 - strengthen the existing youth employment program,
 - promote mentoring and volunteer programs,
 - expand physical fitness opportunities, and
 - decentralize services and programs for older adults.
- Event Park
- Fitness Center
- Softball Field (lighted)
- Special Needs Facilities
- Swim facilities/Aquatic Center

These program needs are included in the Program Needs Summary Matrix in Section 3.7.

3.7 Trends and Implications Analysis

A complete copy of the trends report is found in the Appendix. The report reviews current literature and studies on social and recreational trends and discusses the potential impact on the City of Murrieta. Needs pertaining to recreation facilities include:

- “Intergenerational” facilities that address needs of all of the City’s population regardless of age.
- Facilities that support programs, and provide positive, safe, and secure recreational alternatives.
- Facilities that support programs and activities, promote personal connections, and allow the community to highlight and share their diverse backgrounds.
- Neighborhood parks that allow for increased community connectedness.
- Facilities, such as neighborhood parks, that conveniently support healthy lifestyles.
- Facilities that support increased multi-cultural family arts events.
- Facilities in which children can experience and appreciate nature and open space.

These facility needs are included in the Needs Summary Matrix at the end of this Section.

3.8 Facility Needs Summary and Prioritization

This is a key portion of the Master Plan that brings together information from various public and staff input, as well as other relevant studies and analysis, and distills them into a broader overall picture of recreation in the form of recreation facilities that can support the needs of the Murrieta citizenry to achieve the community vision.

Since all of the needs identification tools are directly or indirectly based on community input, it is fair to say that all of the needs identified are significant and important to some portion of the community. However, it is generally helpful to attempt to determine which needs have the highest priority as perceived by the largest number of residents.

The Facility Needs Summary (Exhibit 3.8-1) uses a numerical ranking system to establish relative priorities; the more needs identification tools that indicate a particular need, the higher the ranking. For instance, "Swimming Pools" is indicated as a need by nine (9) tools and therefore has a higher relative priority than, say, "Picnic Areas" with two (2) tools shown. In determining the overall numerical total, the Exhibit gives greater weight to quantitative tools (statistically valid) by counting each as double the value of a qualitative tool. This is reflected in the top header (Qualitative x2 vs Quantitative x1).

Based on the Exhibit 3.8-1 and for the purposes of this summary, facility needs which are suggested as "high priority" are highlighted in yellow and include (in alphabetical order, indicated numerically by a 4 or above):

- Baseball Fields
- Bike Trails
- Community Center
- Dog Park
- Gymnasium
- Soccer Fields
- Softball Fields
- Swimming Pool
- Walk/Jog/Run Trails

Exhibit 3.8-1: Facility Needs Summary

City of Murrieta Facility Needs Summary	NEEDS IDENTIFICATION TOOLS										
	QUANTITATIVE (X2)		QUALITATIVE (X1)								
	Community-Wide Telephone Survey	Demand-Needs Analysis (current need)	Workshop #1 - 2/12/08	Workshop #2 - 2/21/08	Workshop #3 - 9/17/08	Workshop Participant Questionnaires	Staff Focus Group - 11/29/07	Community Focus Group - 11/29/08	Sports Organization Survey	Program Needs Analysis	Total # of Tools that Identified Need
Identified Recreation Facility Need											
Baseball Fields (lighted)	✓	✓		✓						✓	6
Benches/Bleachers at Sports Fields									✓		1
Bike Trails/Paths	✓	✓									4
BMX Facility			✓	✓		✓					3
Community Center with Classrooms/Meeting Rooms	✓						✓		✓	✓	5
Disc or Frisbee Golf				✓							1
Dog Park	✓	✓			✓						5
Dugouts									✓		1
Event Venue										✓	1
Fences									✓		1
Fitness Center										✓	1
Football Fields (lighted)		✓							✓		3
Gymnasium; Indoor Basketball		✓					✓			✓	4
Ice Rink	✓				✓						3
Indoor Multi-Use Facility/Arena				✓	✓						2
Indoor Swimming Pool for Recreation	✓										2
More Parks	✓										2
Picnic Areas		✓									2
Restrooms									✓		1
Scoreboards									✓		1
Shaded Areas at Sports Fields									✓		1
Soccer Fields (lighted)	✓	✓		✓					✓		6
Softball Fields (lighted)	✓			✓					✓	✓	5
Sound System at Sports Fields									✓		1
Special Needs Facilities										✓	1
Storage for Sports Equipment									✓		1
Swimming Pool for Recreation or Lessons	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	9
Teen Center	✓										2
Tennis Courts (lighted)		✓	✓			✓					4
Trails (Walking/Jogging Paths)	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			7

Section Four

4.0 RECREATION PROGRAMS

Murrieta's Community Services Department (parks & recreation) is striving to develop and implement quality, value-based programs that encourage healthy lifestyles and celebrate the community. The Department provides a vast array of recreation, social, and cultural programs and events for all segments of the Murrieta community. This section analyzes the current programs and services offered, summarize the needs identification tools, and identifies the priority recreation program needs in the City. Recommendations are provided to address the priority program needs that were identified through quantitative and qualitative methods.

4.1 Recreation Benefits

In addition to residents having access to recreation facilities, trails, and open spaces, the availability of a wide-range of recreation programs and leisure opportunities is a major component to the quality of life in any community. Recreation programs benefit individuals, families, businesses, neighborhoods and households of all ages, income levels, cultures, and abilities by creating environments that engage people in positive activities. Recreation programs and services that are developed, designed, and delivered effectively can provide the following benefits:

- Advance lifelong learning
- Create a unique sense of place
- Create fun and celebration
- Create strong families
- Foster youth development

Section Three Highlights:

- The largest numbers of participants in current programs are those enrolled in senior activities.
- The City offers classes and programs at 4 City parks, 6 schools, and 3 private facilities.
- After school, aquatics, sports, fitness, nature education, music, special needs, and senior programs were some of the identified needs in Murrieta.
- Community events are well attended and popular
- Recommendations include offering a wide variety of classes and programs for all ages and abilities.

- Promote economic vitality
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Protect and steward the environment
- Provide for safety and security
- Strengthen cultural unity

Recreation pursuits range from organized activities such as sports, classes, youth activities, family programming, and community events to more passive endeavors such as picnics, hiking, cycling, and walking. Effective recreation programs promote the positive use of leisure time and a lifelong commitment to a healthy lifestyle, personal development, and a strong community.

In the community wide telephone survey, Murrieta residents identified their top priorities for recreation programs and facilities that support the quality of life in Murrieta, including:

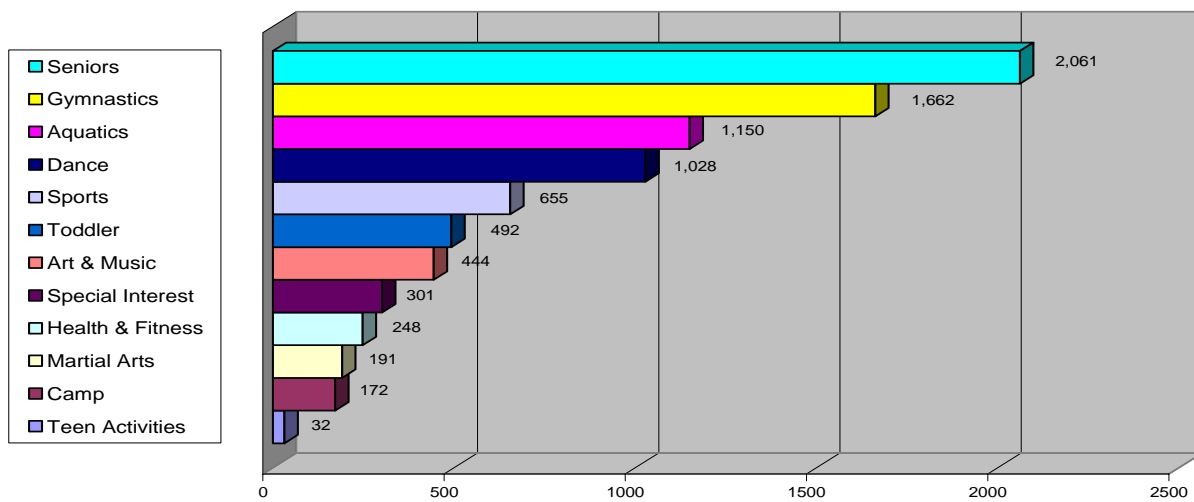
- Opportunities to enhance physical fitness, health, and well-being; and
- Opportunities to gather and socialize with others.

4.2 Existing Recreation Programs

Existing Programs and Services

The City of Murrieta is committed to the delivery of quality, affordable and accessible recreation programs. In FY 2007 the Department served over 8,436 participants in award-winning programs and activities. A summary of the Program Inventory and participation levels is presented below in Exhibit 4.2-1. The highest participation level is in programs for seniors, 2,061 participants. The next three highest levels of participation were for Gymnastics, 1,662, Aquatics 1,150 and Dance 1,028. A complete listing of programs offered is located in the Appendix document.

Exhibit 4.2-1: Murrieta Recreation Services Inventory



In addition to the recreation programs and classes offered, the City hosts community and special events throughout the year. A complete listing of annual events is located in the Appendix document.

Other Service Providers

The City is not the only community service provider meeting the various needs of Murrieta. The Department frequently works in collaboration with other agencies and organizations to deliver services, and should expand this effort in the future. A listing of key community service providers - both current and potential - is included in Exhibit 4.2-2 below. In an era of tight fiscal resources, it is paramount that public, non-profit, and private businesses work collaboratively to maximize existing resources to deliver public services.

Exhibit 4.2-2: Existing and Potential Service Partners**Potential Community Non-Profit Partners in Recreation:**

1	Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Riverside County
2	AARP Temecula Chapter
3	Southwest YMCA

Regional Non-Profit Organizations:

1	San Geronio Girl Scouts
2	Temecula Little League
3	Boy Scouts of America

Murrieta Commercial Recreation Service Providers:

1	Academy Fitness Boot Camp
2	Bullpen/Baseball/Softball Academy
3	Curves
4	Gymboree Play and Music Center
5	Kids Art Studio
6	My Gym
7	Murrieta Fitness
8	Murrieta Tennis Club
9	Temecula/Murrieta Dance Company
10	The Riding Academy
11	Yoga Healing
12	24 Hour Fitness
13	Yamashita Karate Studio

Regional Commercial Recreation Service Providers:

1	Arena Sports & Fitness Center (Wildomar)
---	--

There are several recreation-oriented businesses that offer instructional classes for a variety of interests in City and community facilities. For example, the City partners with My Gym to provide programs for toddlers, and The Riding Academy for equestrian programs. These are excellent examples of public/private partnerships to maximize resources and service to the public.

A wide variety of experiences and opportunities are available to the community through the programs and services provided by the Community Services Department.

The City's Community Services Department provides recreation activities and programs at:

Four City Facilities

- California Oaks Sports Park
- Copper Canyon Facility
- Hunt Park
- Senior Center

Six Murrieta Schools

- Alta Murrieta Elementary
- Avaxat Elementary
- Monte Vista Elementary
- Rail Ranch Elementary School
- Thompson Middle School
- Tovashal Elementary

Three Private Facilities

- Kids Art Studio
- My Gym
- The Riding Academy

4.3 Program Needs Assessment

In the Master Plan process, a variety of methods and processes were utilized in obtaining public input. The data derived from the public input process was the foundation upon which the program analysis and recommendations were developed. Those methods included:

- **Community Outreach:** Information gathered from Murrieta residents through a variety of methods including: two (2) workshops; workshop participant questionnaires; two (2) focus groups.
- **Community-Wide Telephone Survey:** The community-wide random sample survey provides current, statistically valid information specific to Murrieta that provides detailed information on the types of recreation programs most often utilized by Murrieta residents.
- **Recreation Trends Analysis:** National, State and local trends and recreation implications are discussed.
- **Demographic Analysis**

Community Workshop #1 – Community Characteristics and Issues

The workshop participants stated the most important recreation programs to provide in Murrieta are:

- Programs for all ages & capabilities
- Sponsored sports programs (tournaments, competitions)
- Music
- Organized hockey
- Nature programs

Workshop Participant Survey

Most of the respondents (48%) stated that the benefit they feel is most important when seeking recreation or leisure opportunities was “physical fitness, health and well-being” programs. Ideas for new programs to offer include BMX programs, and hockey programs.



Community Workshop #2 – Sports Facilities

The second community workshop was held on Thursday, February 21, 2008. Forty-Five (45) sports group representatives and residents attended this workshop. Programs and activities that would support the most desired sports facilities identified at this workshop are, in alphabetical order:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- BMX
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming/Aquatics

Staff Focus Group

When asked what was one recreation program they would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- After school programs
- Adaptive recreation programs for the disabled
- Job training and work programs for teens



Community Stakeholders Focus Group

When asked what was one recreation program they would most like to see added in Murrieta to meet the needs of the community the top responses were:

- After school programs
- Aquatics

Community Workshop #3 – Needs Summary and Prioritization

According to workshop participants, the top recreation programs needed in Murrieta are:

- Health and Wellness Programs
- After School Programs
- Music and Concerts

Community-Wide Telephone Survey

The tested programs cited as being undertaken by the largest portion of Murrieta residents currently surveyed were Special Community Events (37%), Fitness, Gymnastic or Wellness Classes (26%), Music, Dance or Performing Arts Classes (21%), Arts, Crafts, or Cooking Lessons (11%), and Computer/Technology Classes or Lessons (10%.)

Murrieta is the location for approximately 80% or more of the reported recreation program activity in each of the five tested program types.

The recreation program types cited as most desired by Murrieta residents surveyed were Dance Instruction or Classes (5%), Swimming Lessons (5%), Personal Development or Business Instruction or Classes (4%), Yoga, Meditation or Stress Relief Instruction or Classes (4%), Aerobics, Spinning, or Fitness Instruction/Classes (3%), and Cooking Instruction or Classes (3%), Baseball or Softball (2%), and Senior Events (2%.) All remaining mentions received a response volume that was less than 2% of those polled.

Recreation Programs

Three of every ten respondents (30%) indicated their household members have no new recreation program needs and 20% of those polled suggested recreation facility responses to this recreation program question.

Recreation Trends Analysis

In the appendix of this report there is a section entitled Recreation Trends and Implications for the City of Murrieta. Based on those trends and some of the implications that are indicated, there are some Recreation Programs that should be highlighted for the City of Murrieta, they are included in the following discussion and in Section 4.5 Program Recommendations.

Growing Ethnic and Cultural Diversity

California will experience a net loss of 4 million internal immigrants to other states and add 10 million international migrants (39% of the nation's total) through 2020, adding to its diversity. Murrieta follows this state trend with a combined (12.5%) change in Hispanic and African American population growth since the 2000 census. That was the largest growth for Murrieta since the 2000 census.

Implication: Program planners must be sensitive to, and plan for different recreational preferences. Facilities will need to be not only attractive but also user friendly to a diverse and multi-lingual crowd, without sacrificing or detracting from the enjoyment of others. Events and programs that showcase cultural heritage and unity are effective methods used to build community.

Parks Increased Use, Safety, and Security

Crime and personal safety continue to be major issues for Americans. The events of September 11, 2001, were life changing and shook the confidence of Americans. Restoring safety at home, at school, at work, at play on the road and in the air is paramount.

Recreation activities offer the opportunity for people to connect in a non-threatening environment to enjoy time with friends and family. People are traveling less and seeking recreational opportunities and cultural experiences close to home.

The new trend in Recreation is “Staycations” This is the latest buzzword defining vacations at home. The increase in the number of families vacationing in place reflects the impact of September 11, 2001, the downturn of the economy, coupled with increasing gas prices, leading Americans to stay closer to home and take advantage of programs and facilities in their local area. Safe and well maintained parks are priority for communities, as they move to offer “staycations”, for these residents. There is also considerable evidence that crime rates drop when open space and recreational opportunities are expanded and improved in local communities.

Implications: The Community of Murrieta is ideally located to provide “Staycations” for their residents. There are beautiful facilities such as the California Oaks Sports Park that are located in the City. The neighboring community of Wildomar has a large Arena Sports & Fitness Center. The region surrounding Murrieta also has several ideal spots for stay home vacations.

Murrieta is located in Riverside County, which has one of the finest wine growing regions in California.

For outdoor recreation enthusiasts there is near by Lake Skinner, Diamond Valley Lake, and Lake Elsinore. The Santa Rosa Plateau has several programs for environmentalists, hikers and history buffs.

The Community Services Department could offer day trips that would be for the entire family. Some of these trips might be to places in the City like the California Oaks Sports Park, and the recreation staff could plan a day filled with activities and picnicking.

Recreation Programs

Children and Nature Movement

A growing body of research shows that mere contact with the natural world improves physical and psychological health. In his latest book *Last child in the Woods*, Richard Louv highlights nature deficit disorder as a growing childhood condition resulting from the lack of access to nature. A number of factors contribute to children not getting enough access to nature.



These include fear of crime, parental paranoia about letting children run free, and the ubiquitous presence of electronic technology: video games, television, iPods, and the Internet that keep children entertained indoors. The Internet has replaced the woods. Children have become more sedentary and spend more time indoors as do their parents. Kevin Coyle, vice-president of the National Wildlife Federation states that: "We have reached a tipping point. A number of trends from the sudden accumulation of electronic distraction to the growing fear of going outside." There is growing evidence that a new children and nature movement is growing. Educators, health care professionals, planners and conservation groups are coming together to connect children with nature. Nature themed schools and outdoor classrooms are emerging. Regional and state campaigns are emerging such as Connecticut's *No Child Left Inside* campaign, which is designed to reintroduce children to the outdoors by raising public awareness of underused state parks and forests. In San Diego there is a countywide effort creating a regional nature education network of educators and naturalists to increase outdoor education in the canyons and natural areas of the county.



Implications: Murrieta has 530 acres of parkland, and strives to provide both active and passive elements in its parks. The City cooperates with the County of Riverside to preserve open space vistas and ridgelines in the Santa Rosa Plateau. There are regional parks, city parks, and multi-use trails within the City's sphere of influence, which are excellent resources for introducing children and their families to nature. The future of parks and open space depends on building stewardship and the appreciation of nature in children. In collaboration with the county, health agencies, school districts and conservation groups, the Department can expand its outreach and education efforts to turn wary parents and children into park and open space advocates.

Demographic Analysis

In addition to the community outreach effort, the current and future demographic composition of the City was analyzed. Demographic trends were obtained through a variety of resources that included national, state, regional and local demographics. Emerging and future population trends and their implications for parks and recreation for the Murrieta community were evaluated.

In reviewing the demographics of Murrieta it should be noted that the Hispanic population has grown from 12.9% of the total population in 1990 to 22.2% of the total population in 2008. While the White population has gone from 89.9% in 1990 to 75.8% in 2008, this is an indication that merging cultures need to learn to appreciate the differences and the similarities that each culture adds to the overall Sense of Community. One way to help this process is to have Cultural Celebrations for the entire Community. A Cinco de Mayo Celebration might be an appropriate way to begin this cross-cultural awareness.

The evaluation of programs is intended to help focus the strategic direction for community services in the future. The focus of the Program Needs Assessment is to identify service needs related to recreation interests. These interests may be accommodated in public facilities such as libraries, community centers, schools, public parks, or other private partnerships and are discussed in the next section, Facility Recommendations. This prioritization of program needs help to facilitate park planning as program needs often drive what facility improvements are required. Program and space needs are interconnected and interdependent.

Exhibit 4.3-1 is a listing of all of the program needs identified in the extensive community outreach process and needs assessment.

Exhibit 4.3-1: Program Needs Summary

Murrieta Program Needs Summary	NEEDS IDENTIFICATION TOOLS							Total # of Tools that Identified Need	
	Community-Wide Telephone Survey (2x)	Workshop #1 – 2/12/08	Workshop #2 – 2/21/08	Workshop #3 – 9/17/08	Workshop Participant Questionnaires	Staff Focus Group – 11/29/07	Community Focus Group – 11/29/07		Trends Analysis
Identified Recreation Program Need									
Aerobics/Spinning/Fitness	✓							✓	3
After School Programs				✓		✓	✓	✓	4
Arts & Crafts Programs/ Education							✓	✓	2
Baseball/Softball	✓		✓						3
Basketball Leagues			✓						1
BMX Programs			✓		✓				2
Computer Classes							✓		1
Cooking Classes/Instruction	✓						✓		3
Dance Lessons	✓								2
Festivals/Community Celebrations						✓		✓	2
Fishing								✓	1
Health and Wellness Programs	✓			✓				✓	4
History/Heritage Tours/Lectures								✓	1
Hobbies/Self-Improvement/Career Dev.	✓					✓		✓	4
Intergenerational Prog/ Mentoring								✓	1
Ice Hockey		✓			✓				2
Ice Skating					✓		✓		2
Music/Concerts		✓		✓	✓				3
Nature Education Programs		✓					✓	✓	3
Non-Traditional Programming								✓	1
Obesity Prevention								✓	1
On-Line Classes								✓	1
Outdoor/Adventure Programs								✓	1
Passive Activities (walking, bird watching)								✓	1
Senior Programs	✓				✓				3
Soccer			✓						1
Special Needs Programs		✓				✓		✓	3
Sports (Adult)		✓							1
Sports (Youth)						✓			1
Swimming/Aquatics	✓		✓						3
Teen Job Training						✓			1
Tennis Lessons					✓				1
Volunteers								✓	1

The programs and/or services with a higher priority of need were identified with three or more of the assessment process. The highest priority recreation program needs, listed alphabetically, in Murrieta are:

- Aerobics/Spinning/Fitness Classes
- After School Programs
- Baseball/Softball Programs
- Cooking Classes
- Health and Wellness Programs
- Hobbies/Self Improvement/Career Development
- Music/Concerts
- Nature Education Programs
- Senior Programs
- Special Needs Programs
- Swimming Lessons/Aquatics Classes

Based on qualitative and quantitative data collected during the Master Plan process and the review and analysis of current programs, there are no significant gaps in programming. Staff has responded well to meeting the program interests of the community. However, it is timely to review programs offerings; eliminate any duplication, focus on core program, and strengthen existing program offerings to respond to changing demographics and recreation preferences. As the community demographics are constantly changing, ensuring programs are convenient and affordable for residents will demand staff's continual attention and resources.

4.4 Program Recommendations

The following program recommendations address the top program needs based on the assessment process. These may address needs of a specific age group or the community in general. There may be some overlap or interdependency among the recommended actions. There is also a relationship between program needs and park and facility needs discussed in other sections of the Master Plan.

Youth Programs/Teen Programs

The Department offers many different programs for youth. The Master Plan Process highlighted the desire of residents to provide after school programs for young people. The respondents wanted to see Job Training for Youth, as well as making sure that all programs and services were for all ages and capabilities, youth, teen and adult. The participants also wanted to see adaptive programs for developmentally challenged individuals.

Recommended Actions:

- Maintain cooperative efforts with youth sports organizations, e.g., the Positive Coaching Alliance, to provide safe and accessible programs that develop sports skills, good sportsmanship, and provide youth experiences in organized sports.
- Provide indoor and outdoor spaces for supervised but unstructured free play for youth.
- Expand after school programming with an emphasis on social skills, the arts, environmental education, experiences, and physical fitness.
- Integrate youth development strategies into the development, design, and delivery of youth programs and services.
- Expand youth programs and services with an emphasis on the following activities:
 - Aquatics experiences and lessons
 - Recreational sports
 - Arts activities
 - Activities on school sites
 - Technology-based programs and services e.g. on-line classes, Nintendo Wii
 - Out of school care and/or activities (Out of school care includes those times that school is not in session including before and after school as well as spring, winter, and summer breaks)

- Environmental education
 - Civic engagement and volunteerism
 - Physical fitness, nutritional education
 - Interactive family programming, which includes intergenerational programs
- Explore, expand, and establish opportunities for youth to participate in the ongoing identification, development, and delivery of programs, services, and events.
- Continue to collaborate in the delivery of programs and services for youth including special interest class instructors, private agencies, and non-profit organizations.
- Develop special events for the youth including the continuation and expansion of teen dances, and battle of the bands.
- Promote mentoring and volunteer programs that provide opportunities for youth mentoring youth, business mentoring youth, seniors mentoring youth, and youth connecting with seniors.
- Explore opportunities to expand excursion programs that provide for highly interactive experiences for youth.
- For middle and high school youth, consider “non-traditional” activities such as those mentioned in community process (e.g. BMX,).

Arts and Crafts Programs/Education

The Community Services Department offers programs and classes supporting the arts. The community process, however, indicated a continued interest in the expansion of these programs. Interest in cultural arts events and activities that provide entertainment such as concerts and movies in the park, as well as those programs that develop skills in dancing, music, & performing arts. The arts will continue to grow as residents of all ages and ethnicities seek these opportunities close to home.





Recommended Actions:

- Increase promotion to attract and build audiences for theatrical performance and experiences.
- Foster cultural unity through cooperative programs and events that celebrate the community's cultural heritage, character, and spirit.
- Showcase different cultures in special event programming to enhance cultural understanding and unity.
- In partnership with local school districts and the Murrieta Historical Society, expand interpretive outreach programs about Murrieta's history. Programs should be developed to follow the California Science and History-Social Science curriculum framework and content standards.
- Continue to produce arts and cultural events that improve the quality of life for residents, such as the Tour de Murrieta, concerts and movies in the park.

Special Needs/Developmentally Disabled Programs

Murrieta's special needs population includes the physically and developmentally disabled and the frail elderly. This population benefits both from therapeutic recreation, social, and educational programs as well as from ensuring that all programs offered by the Department are made as accessible and safe as possible. Murrieta's Universal Design Ordinance for Livability and Visitability is an excellent start to begin to work with the Disabled Community to make Murrieta a better place to live work and play. A need for additional outreach to the disabled, collaborative efforts with other providers, and expanded therapeutic programs and services was noted during the community process.

Recommended Actions:

- Continue to try and find ways to provide an array of training opportunities and competition perhaps through California Special Olympics, for the Murrieta disabled population.
- Outreach to the disabled population and agencies that serve this population to determine recreation, social, and educational needs and desired programs.
- Based on the outreach results, develop/implement more adaptive programming (e.g. wheelchair basketball, equestrian programs).
- Ensure that all Department programming is safe and accessible by the special needs community and meets ADA standards to the extent possible.
- Explore opportunities for passive recreation at parks and recreation sites to meet the needs of the disabled population.
- Develop programs in natural, outdoor settings that are wheelchair accessible that offer opportunities for inclusion, socialization, and intergenerational programming, e.g. gardening, fishing.



Festivals/Community Events

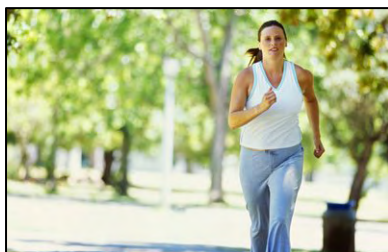
Community events and festivals that bridge the community and bring people together for recreation, cultural expression, and entertainment are some of the Department's most popular programs. These events unite the community, and build community identity and vitality. The public outreach process indicated that residents consider these events a very high priority and are interested in expanding events.





Recommended Actions:

- Expand community and population specific special events that create a solid sense of community and family connectedness.
- Continue to offer concerts in the parks.
- Consider an intergenerational health and wellness event, with an emphasis on physical activities and nutritional education.
- Explore opportunities to expand environmental education events for families, as well as middle and high school youth.
- Target events for middle school separate from high school.
- Develop a multi-cultural event that highlights the customs of various cultures and ethnicities.
- Continue to build on the success of the Teen and Father Day Car Shows, Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting, and other special events.



Health and Fitness Programs

The focus on health and wellness has become a national interest for all ages. As boomers age, they anticipate living a longer and healthier life and look for opportunities that support this goal. Obesity issues for both youth and adults challenge the Department to continue to foster physical and mental health and wellness through active and passive recreation activity, and to assume a leadership role in educating the public about how to achieve health and wellness. The Community Services Department currently offers a “Healthy Murrieta” website that offers tips, charts, and advice on how residents can start a fitness program and track their progress.

Recommended Actions:

- Develop and continue existing multi-disciplinary health partnerships with schools, local hospitals, and health care providers, private health clubs, and other agencies to bring public information and educational programs that prevent obesity and successfully promote physical activity across entire communities.
- Regularly and succinctly articulate to the public and policy makers the health and wellness outcomes of Department programs and facilities.
- Incorporate healthy eating and exercising habits into after-school recreation programs and camps for young children that model healthy living.
- Address the needs of an aging population by encouraging participation in physical activity with an emphasis on the gentler aerobic activities.
- Encourage bicycle safety and use as an alternative to automobile travel and provide secure bicycle and pedestrian access to schools and parks.
- Expand physical fitness and all other health and wellness activities, threading these themes throughout other programs such as community events, hiking, dancing, etc.
- Market recreation as essential to healthy lifestyles for all ages and educate consumers about disease prevention and wellness programs accessible to them.
- Provide outdoor skills training, and adventures that encourage individuals and families to hike, rock climb, camp, and in other ways enjoy the outdoors.

Older Adult Programs

Approximately 2,061 senior adults participate in a variety of recreational and social activities provided by the Senior Center and various community organizations. Population trends indicate that although Murrieta is a community of many young families and adults, there is a growing population of older adults. All demographic reports for the state indicate this number will greatly increase with the aging of baby boomers. Although not specifically identified as a high priority through the public outreach process, the need to provide safe and accessible programs to all Murrieta population segments was a common theme, and with the expected growth of this population, the Department should be prepared to continue to provide programs and services to meet the needs of this group.

Recommended Actions:

- Work closely with the Senior Center to provide a comprehensive older adult services program area that includes recreational, educational, and socially targeted activities.
- Develop marketing strategy and programs that include more active recreational activities for the growing population of “baby boomer” seniors or “young old” who are interested in health and fitness activities and social connectedness. Specific program areas could include:
 - a. Aquatics
 - b. Older adult sports
 - c. Health and wellness
 - d. Social clubs
 - e. Physical fitness – Tai Chi, hiking
 - f. Computer education
 - g. Specialized, lifelong learning opportunities including on-line classes
 - h. Environmental education and awareness

- When possible, search out and create collaborative relationships to establish partnerships in the development of the older adult services delivery system.

4.5 Program Recommendations Summary

The Department is challenged to keep up with the growing population and the public's demand for diverse recreation programs. The demand increases on many fronts from different age segments and demographic groups. Murrieta's median age is 32.3 years but the older adult population will continue to grow as "baby boomers" age. Even though there is some leveling off and decline in school enrollment, there is a large school age population. Service for youth will remain a priority in the city as evidenced by the quantitative and qualitative data gathered in the Master Plan process.

There is a consistent demand for **convenient, accessible, and equitably distributed** recreation programs throughout the City to serve busy, commuting, and two-income households. The scarcity of time and traffic congestion precipitates the need for recreation close to home and transportation alternatives to access programs.

There is a keen interest in **cultural arts programs and events** that provide entertainment such as concerts as well as those that develop skills in dancing, drama, music, and the arts. This interest will continue to grow as residents of all ages and ethnicities seek these opportunities close to home. Cultural events increase cultural understanding and connect disparate communities.

The Department can build on its past successes and **sustain both active and passive recreation programs for youth and teens**. Continuity in programs for before and after school care as well as active sports and fitness, outdoor activity and arts education will remain a priority.

Collaboration with other providers to **expand therapeutic recreation programs and ensure accessibility to facilities** is important.

The Department has a solid foundation to build on and is well positioned to improve its programs; as it moves forward to implement the Master Plan and achieve its vision encouraging healthy lifestyles and celebrating the community's diversity.

Section Five

5.0 RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

This Section presents potential opportunities to meet the recreation needs identified in the Facility Needs Assessment (Section 3) of this Master Plan.

Fortunately, there are many opportunity sites to consider in Murrieta (Exhibit 2.8-1). New recreation elements could be added at existing parks, joint use schools, planned parks, unplanned areas, or new property targeted for acquisition. Therefore, solving the recreation needs puzzle could be accomplished in a variety of ways, depending upon specific analysis and design of each site and upon future acquisition outcomes. Moreover, the City's process of park design and development involves extensive community input that will likely affect park and recreation facility design. This Master Plan report strives instead to identify opportunities to consider for the development of future parks to meet identified current and future recreation needs.

For City park projects, choosing a project or projects to pursue occurs as a result of the capital improvement project budget process conducted by the City each year. The chosen project would then follow a process pathway, with community input, that will determine what amenities will be added to the park. The opportunities discussion that follows offers a way to visualize the overall need in the context of the opportunities so that the ultimate goal of satisfying recreation needs is kept in mind.

Section Five Highlights:

- Recommendations in existing sites and opportunity sites attempt to address all the identified recreation needs in Murrieta.
- Community centers, off leash dog areas, gymnasium, sports facilities, swimming pools, trails and are among the top priorities.
- Increasing joint use school opportunities will help the City address the sport field deficiencies.
- Acquisition sites will be important for future recreation facility needs and parkland acreage goals.

5.1 Overall Concept

The discussions below assume that several of the opportunity sites described in Section 2 will be improved for the purpose of addressing recreation needs. Use of the opportunity sites will involve separate design and administrative processes that may alter how they are ultimately utilized; in which case, the overall concept for meeting recreation needs should be somewhat flexible.

Satisfaction of identified needs does not appear to be an overly daunting task; the City has effectively pursued park and recreation facility additions and currently plans for more park improvements. Continued parks and recreation facility planning and development will be needed to satisfy current and future needs. It is intended that the City pursue satisfaction of recreation facility needs using the following key strategies and improvements:

- Satisfaction of significant sports field needs should be pursued in new partnership sites, by new land acquisition, and increased joint use of school sites.
- A significant aquatic center on City property should be pursued. Additionally, existing and future tot lots/playgrounds can be enhanced with the addition of spray play elements, geographically distributed throughout the City.
- A centrally located new community center should be pursued in future phases of Los Alamos Hills Sports Park.
- Increased trail connectivity and opportunities should be emphasized, focusing on corridors and links to adjacent natural open space, parks, schools, and commercial areas.
- Neighborhood Parks should be within reasonable walking distance of most homes.
- Design and use of opportunity sites should be pursued in order to meet recreation needs and goals (parkland acreage and recreation element quantities).

- New residential development should be planned to include park and recreation facilities that adequately serve the planned population and complements and enhances the City park system as a whole.

5.2 Key Issues

Based on the needs assessment process and on previous strategic plan processes, a set of key issues has been identified and addressed in detail in the following Section 5.2. The Key Issues include:

- Provision of quantities of swimming pools appropriate to the current and future population.
- Development of an effective, connected, multi-use trail system for walking, jogging, hiking, biking, and equestrian uses.
- Provision of quantities of sports facilities appropriate to the current and future population, to include:
 - Baseball fields
 - Soccer Fields
 - Softball Fields
 - Tennis Courts
- Provision of community centers in appropriate locations.
- Addition of at least two (2) off leash dog areas, distributed in the City.
- Provision of gymnasiums in appropriate locations.
- Provision of parkland acreage quantities consistent with the City standard of 5 acres per 1,000, with appropriate distribution.

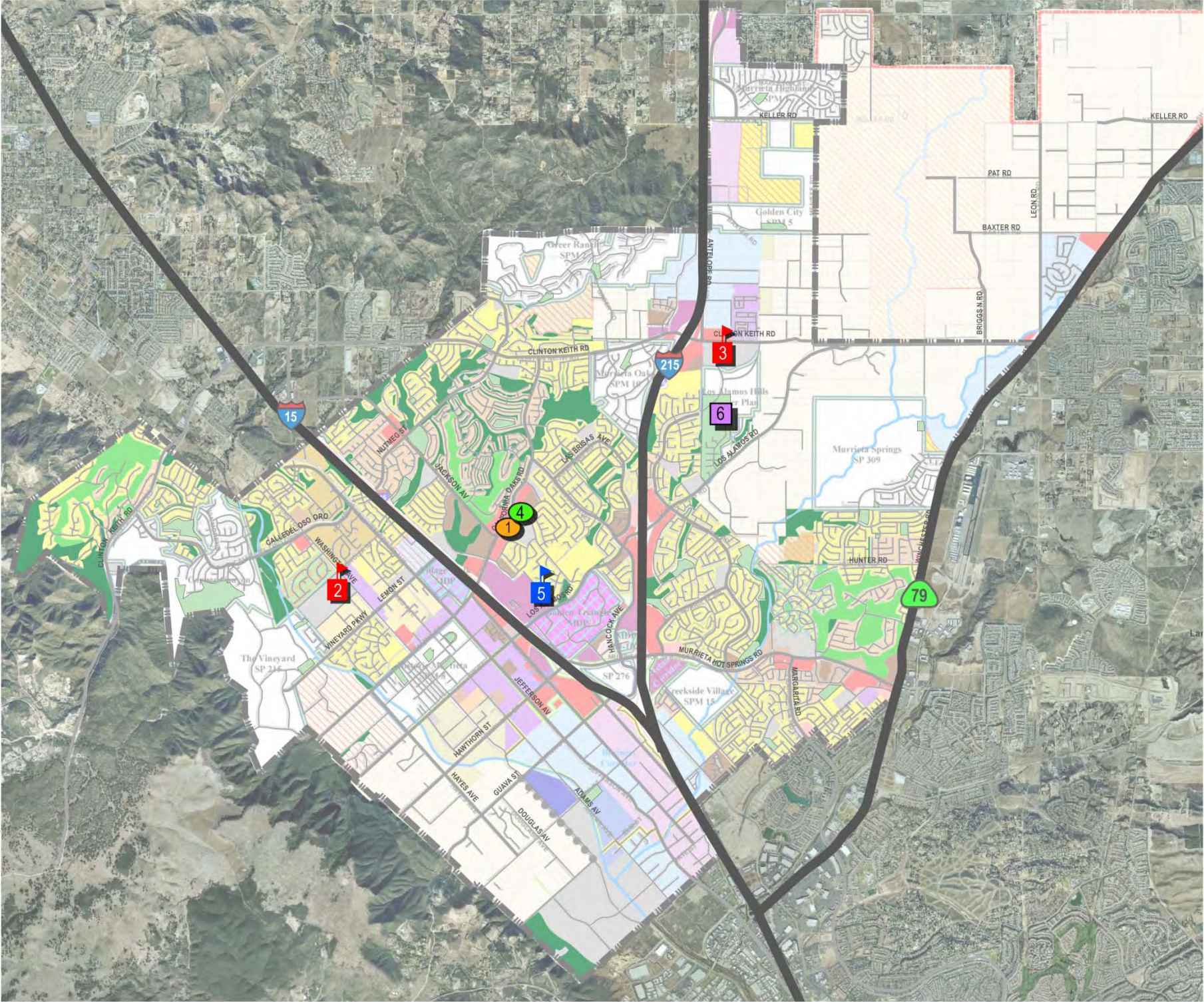
Aquatics/Swimming Pools

Background: According to the Demand and Need Analysis evaluation, Murrieta will need one and one-half (1.5) additional swimming pools by the time the City reaches ultimate build-out. A swimming pool for recreation and/or lessons was among the needs most often indicated by Master Plan needs identification tools.

The City has one pool at California Oaks Sports Park that is open seasonally for swim lessons. Vista Murrieta High School and Murrieta Valley High School pools are used year-round by private swim organizations (such as Murrieta Elsinore Swim Association, Swim Inland Gold Aquatics, and Murrieta Youth Water Polo). Swim lessons are also offered during the summer at the high school pools by private organizations.

Recommendations: Provide a significant aquatic center facility on City property. This can be pursued at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park or the existing facility at California Oaks Sports Park could be renovated and expanded. More specific study is required to determine which site would be best. Exhibit 5.2-1 identifies the existing swimming pools in Murrieta, and the proposed new swimming pools to address the current need for an additional aquatic facility for recreation and swimming lessons.

Exhibit 5.2-1: Existing and Proposed Swimming Pools



LEGEND

EXISTING SWIMMING POOLS

- 1 California Oaks Sports Park
- 2 Murrieta Valley High School (not currently available for City use)
- 3 Vista Murrieta High School (not currently available for City use)

PROPOSED SWIMMING POOLS

Existing Parks

- 4 California Oaks Sports Park (renovate)

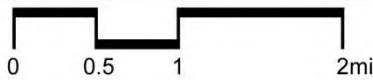
Joint Use Schools

- 5 New High School

Opportunity Sites

- 6 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 3)

SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)



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For future needs, it should be noted that potential new aquatic elements are already planned at the new Murrieta High School (by California Oaks Sports Park) and at a future YMCA facility in Temecula on Margarita Road. These planned facilities could represent an opportunity for joint use and partnership swimming pool facilities.

In addition, new spray play areas are proposed in existing parks throughout the City in conjunction with playground renovation or expansion. Spray play is highly desired in areas with hot summers such as Murrieta.

Multi-Use Trail System

Trail connectivity was a frequent topic during the Master Plan process. The city of Murrieta has multiple trail systems currently in place, see Exhibit 5.2-2. An effective trails system could be an important component of the community; providing recreation opportunities, transportation efficiencies, and an increase in public health, given the city's topography and proximity to significant natural open space. The City's 1994 General Plan, 1999 Master Plan, 2003 City Adopted Multi-Purpose Trail Plan, as well as adjacent planned county trail systems all depict a interconnected set of trails and trail corridors (see Appendix document).

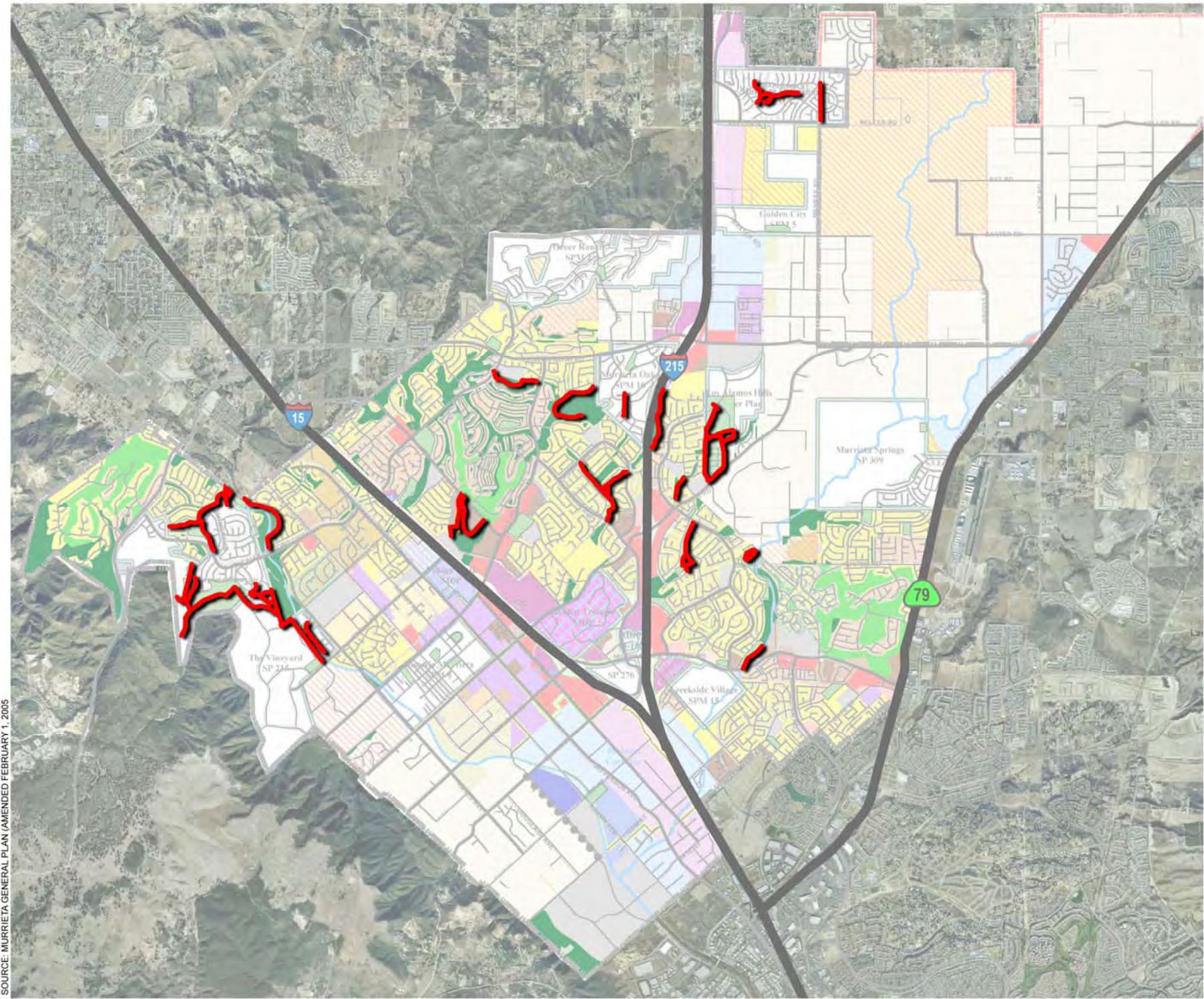
The 1999 Master Plan identifies the proximity of trails to schools as well as local park facilities. Indeed a larger connected trail system is also echoed in the City's 2003 Adopted Multi-Purpose Trails Map, see exhibit 5.2-3.

Adjacent to the city of Murrieta are numerous planned county trails (see appendix) with access to hiking areas such as the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve located at the southern end of the Santa Ana Mountains in southwest Riverside County.

It is emphasized that trail linkages, loops and connections to open space are key recommendations that should be pursued in Murrieta. The following are suggested as top priority trail projects. **Develop trail connections between and to existing trail networks in the western, central, and eastern regions of Murrieta. See exhibit 5.2-4.**


Whenever possible, new parks should be connected to the bike and trail system. Also, new and existing parks should provide amenities to encourage the use of the bike and multi-use trail systems, such as: maps, kiosks, signage, bicycle air stations, and bicycle parking (i.e. bike racks). When new trails are developed they should adhere to the Trail Section Diagrams (Section Map 5-1 through 5.5 from the 1999 Parks Master Plan), and Sheet SLD013 – Decomposed Granite Path (from the Landscape Standards Booklet). The trail section diagram and standard for a decomposed granite path are located in the Appendix document.

Exhibit 5.2-2: Existing Trails in Murrieta



LEGEND

TRAIL LEGEND

 Existing Trails

SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

DATE: 11/2008



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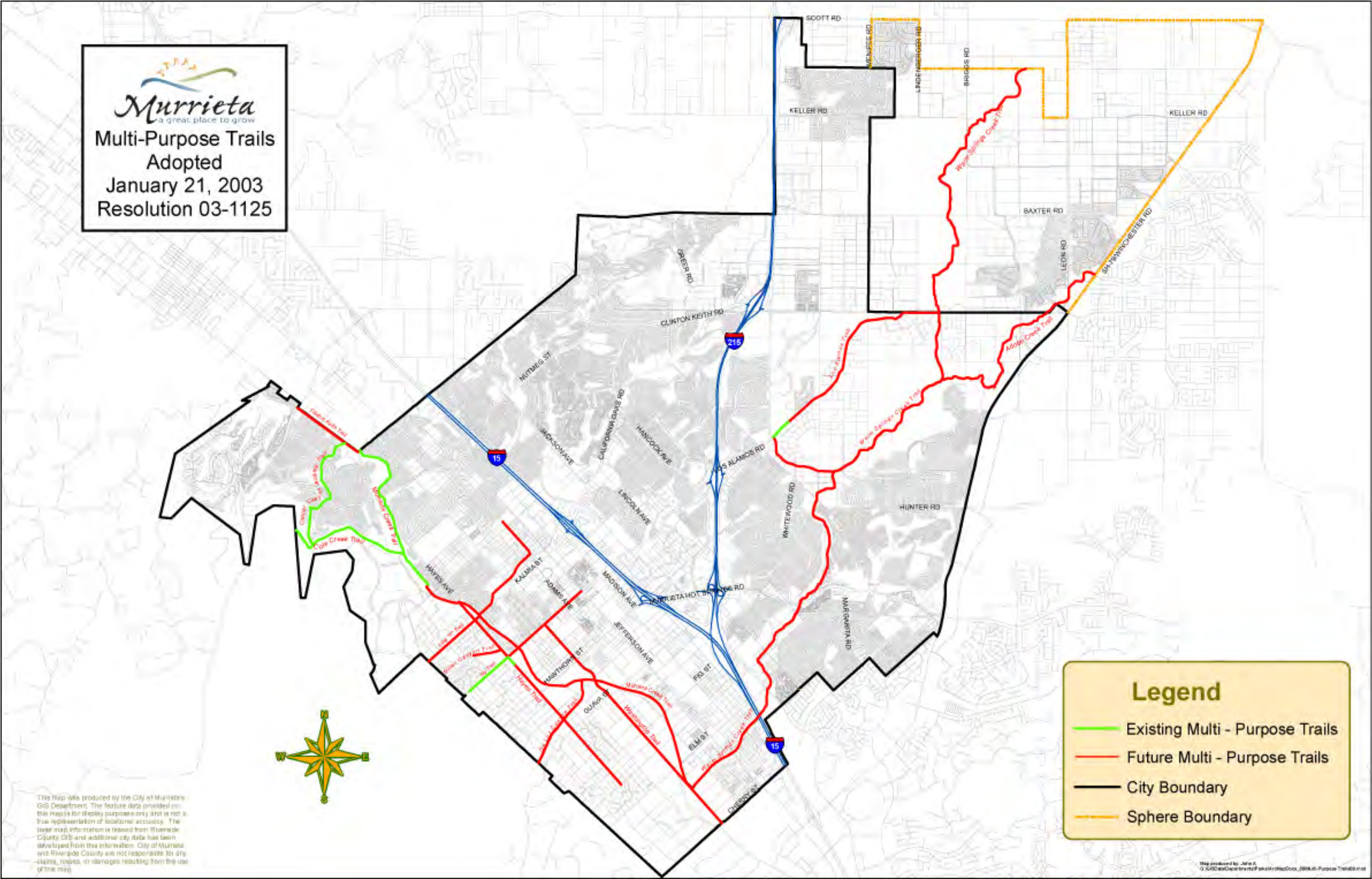


PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN UPDATE
CITY OF MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

EXHIBIT 5.2-2
EXISTING CITY TRAIL NETWORK

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Exhibit 5.2-3: Adopted Trails Map (2003)



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SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)



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Sports Facilities

The recreation facility demand analysis provides important data on the types of recreation facilities used by Murrieta residents. This information, coupled with information from the community outreach process and sports user groups, has been compared to the City's inventory of facilities to determine whether the City has a surplus or deficit for a variety of recreation elements such as sports fields and courts.

Based on the information collected, there are current deficits for the following recreation elements:

- Baseball fields (9)
- Soccer Fields (13)
- Softball Fields - Adult (1)
- Tennis Courts (28)

Each of these is discussed below.

Baseball Fields

Background: Seven (7) City fields are currently utilized for youth and Pony League baseball games. Pony league teams also use the six (6) private Pony fields, but these are not included in the inventory or the demand and needs analysis. Current baseball field need is nine (9) fields (in addition to existing fields) to meet existing demand, on public property. By build-out, two (2) more fields are anticipated to be needed (for a total of eleven more than currently exists). Approximately 1,600 children currently play in organized baseball games.

It is desirable to provide ballfields that are designed appropriately and specifically for either softball or baseball, but that can also be programmed for other activities if need be. Locating two or more fields together is also desirable and efficient.

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-5 identifies the existing fields used for baseball games, and the proposed locations to add baseball fields for game use. It is suggested that current baseball field needs be addressed by providing new fields at:

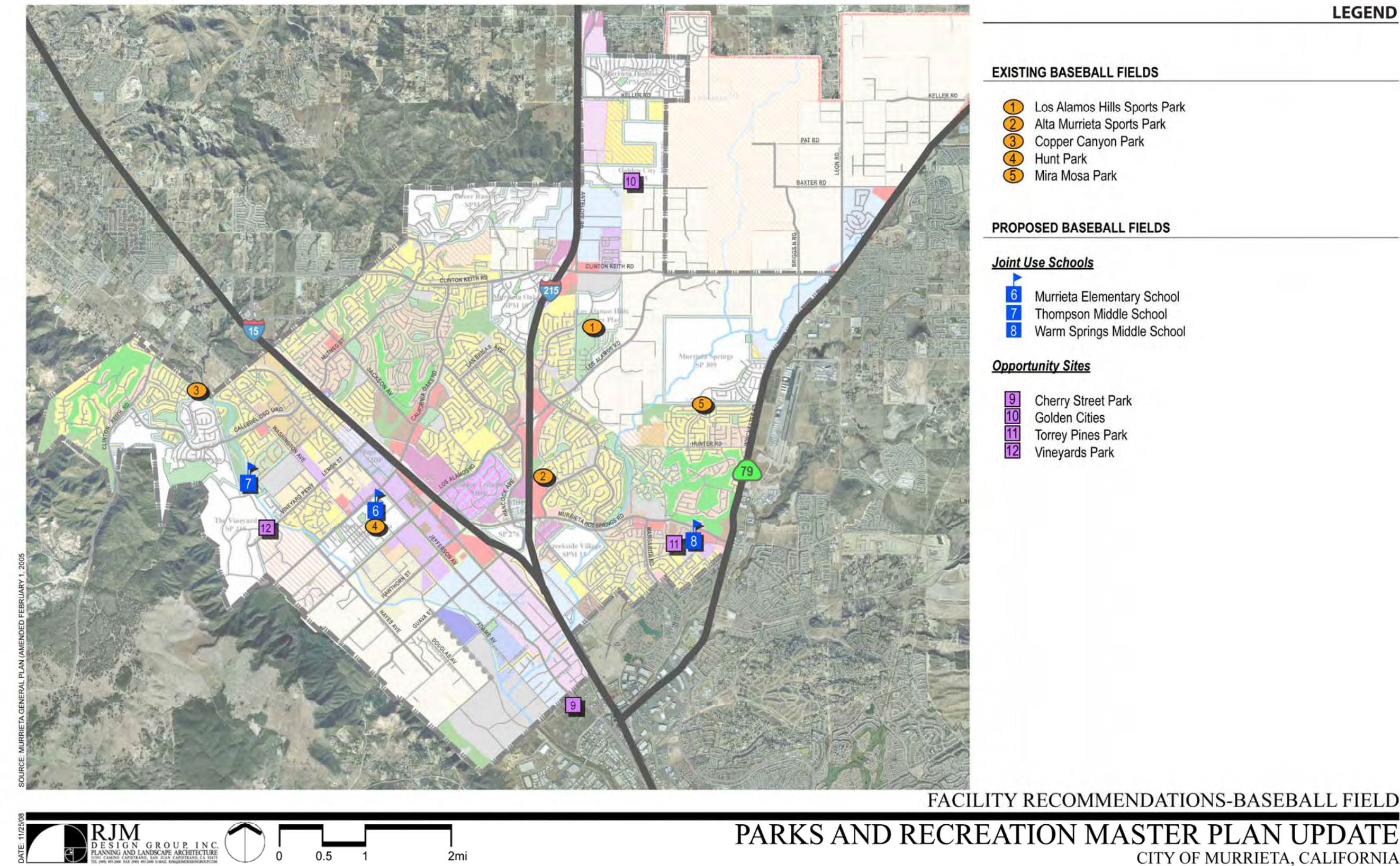
- *Joint use schools that have practice fields (Murrieta Elementary School, Thompson Middle School, and Warm Springs Middle School – 4 fields in total)*
- *Cherry Street Park: A potential new sports park developed in partnership with the City of Temecula (4 fields)*
- *Golden Cities Park (1 field)*
- *Torrey Pines Park (1 field)*
- *Vineyards Park (1 field)*

The current need for Pony league sized fields is being met at the existing Pony Fields, but since these fields are privately owned and operated this solution could be considered temporary.

It is suggested that future baseball field need be addressed by providing new game fields at one or more of the following:

- *Acquire or otherwise obtain rights to the Water District property known as the Pony Fields, upgrade as needed, and operate as a City facility*
- *Acquire or otherwise obtain rights to parkland in the Vineyard area to provide a sports facility*

Exhibit 5.2-5: Existing and Proposed Baseball Fields



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Soccer Fields

Background: Ten (10) public fields are currently utilized for soccer games in Murrieta, four of which are schools are at schools. The City will need seventeen (17) additional fields by the time the City reaches ultimate build-out, including thirteen (13) needed currently. Soccer fields are among the needs most often indicated by Master Plan needs identification tools.

There are eight (8) soccer fields at the John Blanche Soccer Complex. Because they are privately owned, these are not counted in the inventory or in the demands and needs analysis.

Respondents to the sports organization survey stated that some soccer fields are overused and maintenance of City soccer fields could be improved by resting the fields. It should be noted that the demand and needs analysis of this Master Plan builds in a 20% resting factor in the demand equation.

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-6 identifies the existing fields used for soccer games, and the proposed locations to add soccer fields for game use. It is suggested that current soccer field needs be addressed by providing new game fields at:

- *Existing City parks that have soccer practice fields (California Oaks Sports Park, and Copper Canyon Park – a total of 2 fields)*
- *Conversion of some soccer fields at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park to artificial turf, allowing for more use (possible increase of 4 fields, since no resting period is required.)*

- *Joint use schools that have practice fields (Thompson Middle School, and Warm Springs Middle School – a total of 3 fields)*
- *Cherry Street Park: A potential new sports park developed in partnership with the City of Temecula (4 fields)*
- *Vineyards Park (2 fields)*

The current need for some of the soccer activity (use of 8 fields) is being met at the existing privately owned John Blanche Memorial Soccer Complex, but since these fields are privately owned and operated this solution could be considered temporary.

It is suggested that future soccer field needs be addressed by providing new game fields at one or more of the following:

- *Acquire or otherwise obtain rights to parkland in the Vineyard area to provide a sports facility.*
- *Possible partnership with the John Blanch Memorial Soccer Complex if access is improved.*

Exhibit 5.2-6: Existing and Proposed Soccer Fields

LEGEND

EXISTING SOCCER FIELDS

- 1 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park
- 2 California Oaks Sports Park
- 3 Copper Canyon Park
- 4 Mapleton Park
- 5 Murrieta Elementary School Park
- 6 Northstar Park
- 7 Rancho Acacia Park
- 8 Shady Maple Park
- 9 Valley Vista Park
- 10 Vintage Reserve Park

PROPOSED SOCCER FIELDS

Existing Parks

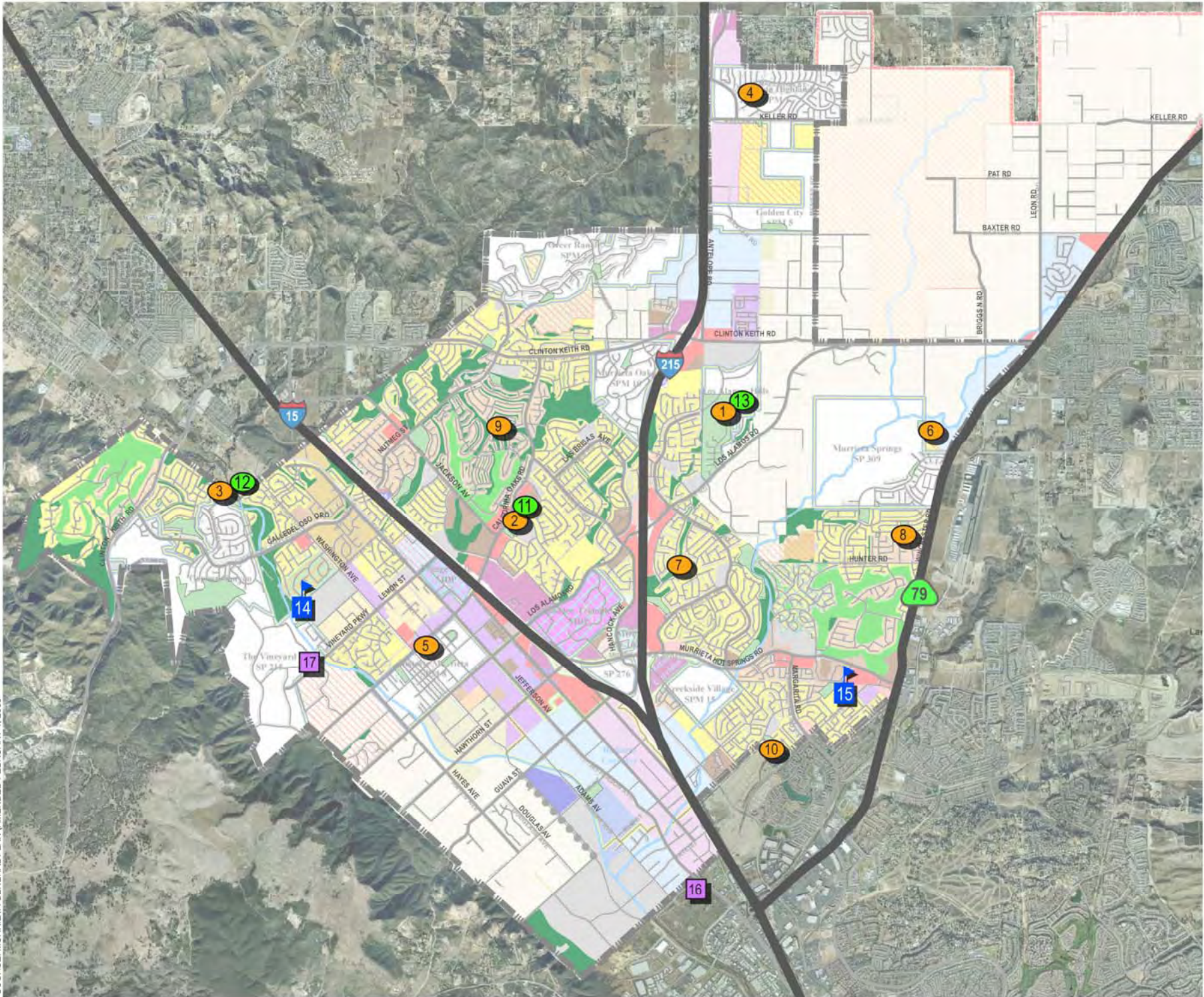
- 11 California Oaks Sports Park (renovate)
- 12 Copper Canyon Park (renovate)
- 13 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (renovate)

Joint Use Schools

- 14 Thompson Middle School
- 15 Warm Springs Middle School

Opportunity Sites

- 16 Cherry Street Park
- 17 Vineyards Park



FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS-SOCCER FIELD

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE
CITY OF MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

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Softball Fields - Adult

Background: Only one City field is used for adult softball games. There appears to be a need for two (2) more by build-out. More than 500 adults currently play in organized softball games.

It is desirable to provide ballfields that are designed appropriately and specifically for either softball or baseball, but that can also be programmed for other activities if necessary.

(Note: The demand and needs analysis indicates that the number of youth softball fields are appropriate for the current and future population.)

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-7 identifies the existing fields used for adult softball games, and the proposed locations to add adult softball fields for game use. It is suggested that softball field needs could be addressed by retrofitting the existing fields at Murrieta Elementary School Park and add lighting to the fields. New softball fields could be provided at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park, Phase 2.

Tennis Courts

Background: According to the Demand and Need Analysis evaluation, Murrieta will need thirty-six (36) additional tennis courts by the time the City reaches ultimate build-out (28 tennis courts are currently needed). Tennis courts are among the facilities identified as high priority according to the Needs Summary Matrix.

Currently, there are two (2) courts at California Oaks Sports Park and one (1) at Hunt Park. There are many existing tennis courts at the public high schools that are not currently available to the general public. Private courts at clubs and in homeowner associations likely play a significant role in Murrieta, but these courts are not counted in the inventory and demand and needs analysis.

Respondents to the workshop participant questionnaire stated that tennis is played at Bear Creek, Murrieta Tennis Club and Temecula Valley High School.

Recommendations: Because private courts appear to be meeting some of the tennis court needs, meeting the entire future need of thirty-six (36) courts in public facilities may not be necessary. Rather, it may be more appropriate and efficient to consider providing public tennis courts in equitable quantities and locations throughout the City. Another worthy objective would be to provide a centrally located tennis facility with several courts grouped together to provide flexibility in programming for tournaments, lessons, etc.. Exhibit 5.2-8 identifies the existing tennis courts at City parks, and the proposed locations to add tennis courts. It is suggested that courts be provided as follows:

- *Light the two existing courts at California Oaks Sports Park (2 courts)*
- *Consider increased availability of existing tennis courts at the high schools through joint use agreement (15 courts possible)*
- *Consider tennis as a potential element at the future Cherry Street Park: A potential new sports park developed in partnership with the City of Temecula (6 courts)*
- *Consider a four-court complex at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion - Phase 2 (4 courts)*

Exhibit 5.2-7: Existing and Proposed Softball Fields

LEGEND

EXISTING SOFTBALL FIELDS (ADULT)

- 1 California Oaks Sports Park

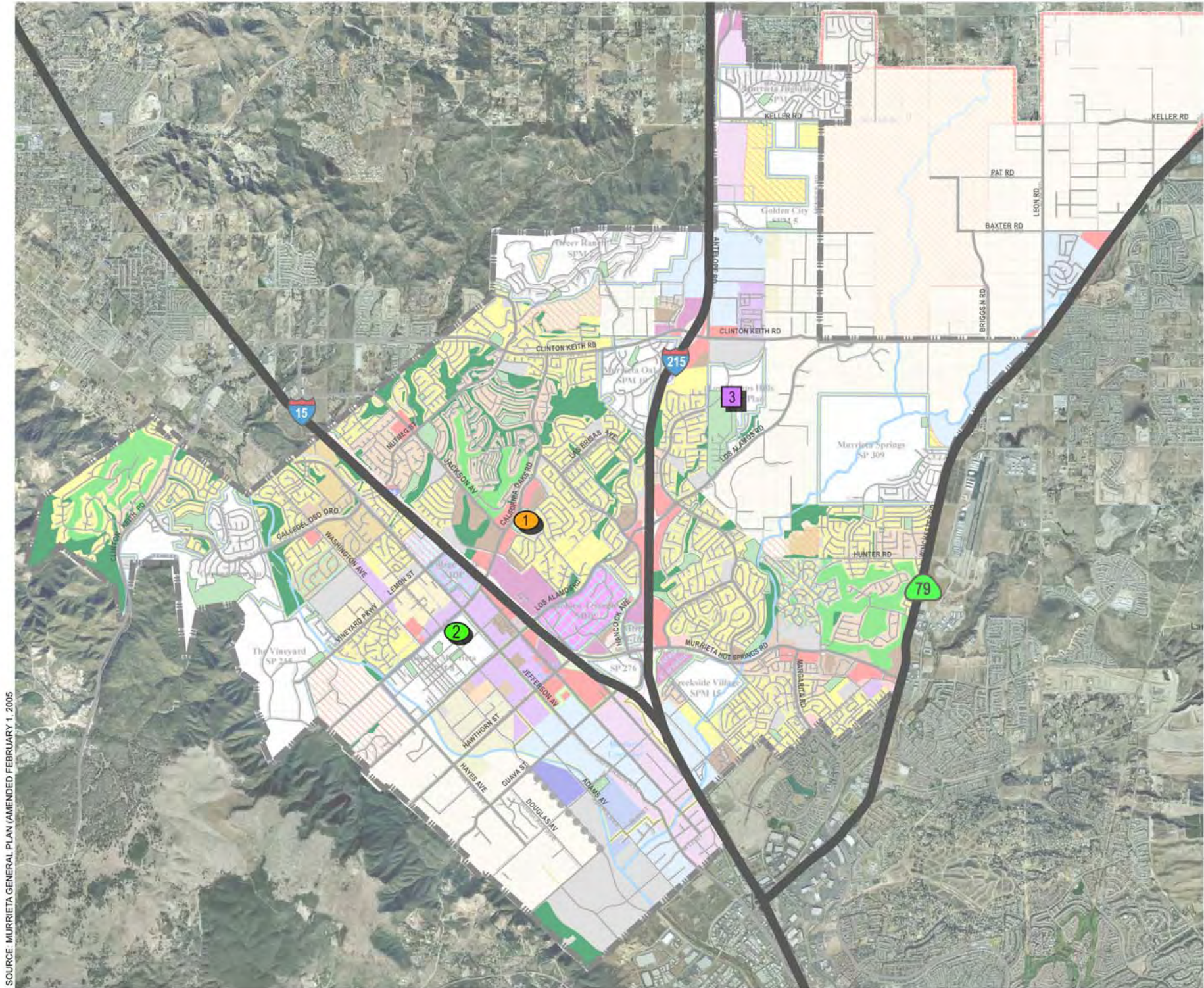
PROPOSED SOFTBALL FIELDS (ADULT)

Existing Parks

- 2 Murrieta Elementary School Park

Opportunity Sites

- 3 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 2)



SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS-SOFTBALL FIELD

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE
CITY OF MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

DATE: 11/24/08

RJM

DESIGN GROUP INC.

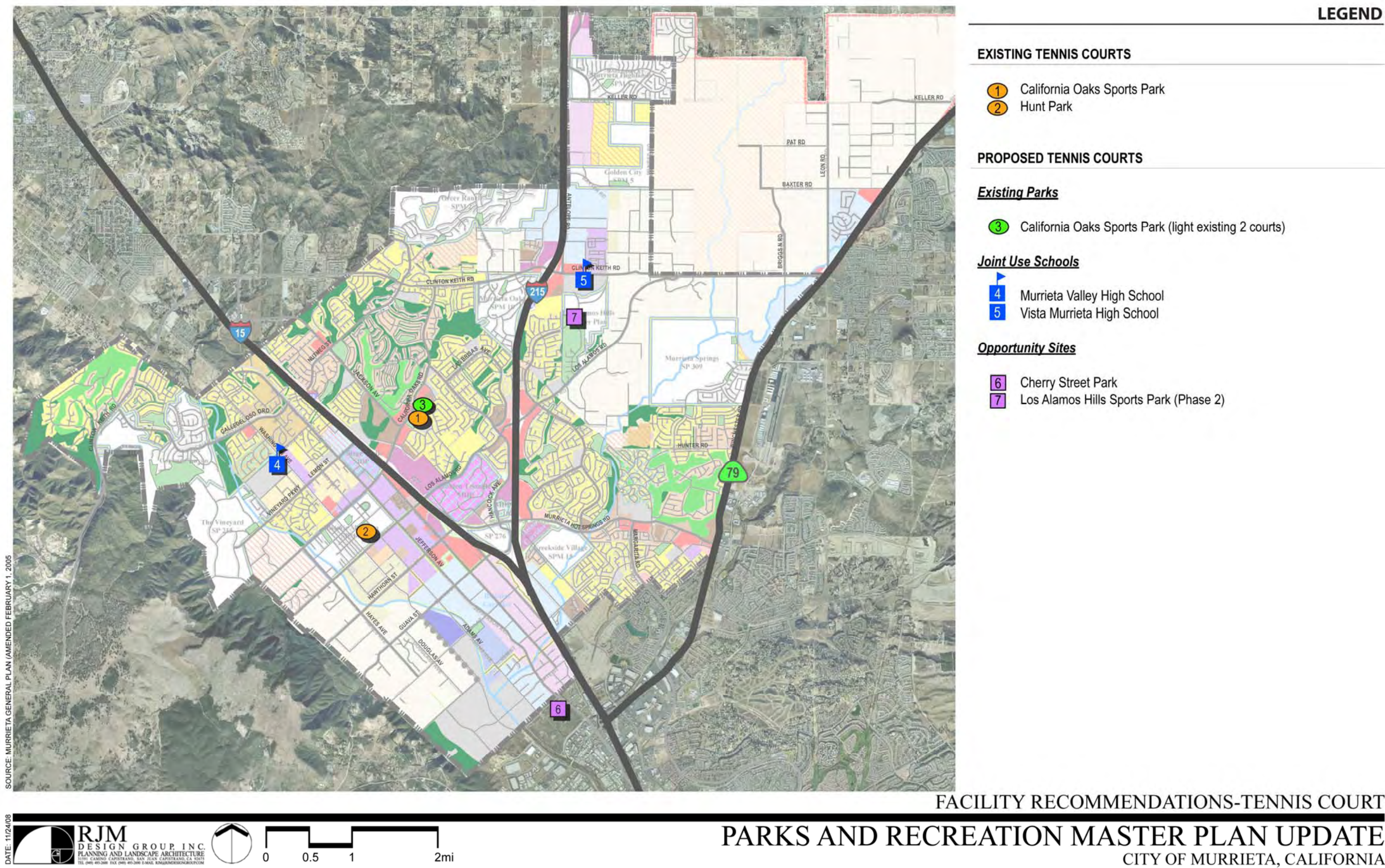
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Exhibit 5.2-8: Existing and Proposed Tennis Courts



SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

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Community Centers

Background: The City opened the new senior center in 2006. Additional Community Centers are among the needs most often indicated by Master Plan needs identification tools, and a community center was highly ranked in priority by participants in the Needs Prioritization Workshop.

The City has already begun planning for a new teen center at California Oaks Sports Park and the relocation of the existing Boys and Girls Club to Second Street Park.

There are also planning discussions for a 20,000 SF community center building at Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion as part of a Phase 2 design effort. It is anticipated that recreation elements could include a gymnasium. Combined with existing and proposed sports fields, Los Alamos Hills Sports Park will be a major recreation facility for the entire City.

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-9 identifies the existing community centers at City parks, and the proposed locations to add community centers. The following community center sites are being considered:

- *Teen Center at California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (to include classrooms, computer room, game room, activity patio, offices, kitchen, recreation room, gymnasium, workout room, and locker rooms)*
- *Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion - Phase 2 (20,000 sf community center to include a gymnasium)*
- *Boys & Girls Club Facility at Second Street Park*
- *Provide recreation room at Golden Cities Park*

Community centers are often considered the heart of the community, a place where the community comes together for recreation, learning, socializing,

growing, and health. In fact, rather than dividing community center activities into different locations (i.e. senior center, teen center, etc), there is growing interest in integrated “multi-generational” facilities which are flexible and diverse. Moreover, trends in retirement are toward more active recreation pursuits often found in community centers offering a broad range of services and facilities.

Off-Leash Dog Areas

Background: According to the Demand and Need Analysis, Murrieta needs three (3) off-leash dog areas to meet current needs. There are no existing off-leash dog areas within City limits. Off Leash Dog Areas are among the needs most often indicated by Master Plan needs identification tools.

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-10 identifies the potential candidate locations that may accommodate off-leash dog areas. The following are considered candidates for off-leash dog areas:

In existing parks:

- *Glen Arbor Park*

In opportunity sites:

- *Calle del Oso Oro site*
- *City Parcel/Nutmeg*
- *Torrey Pines Park*
- *City Parcel/Calle San Vicente*

It is desirable to distribute needed off-leash dog areas appropriately in the City.

It is suggested that each dog area be approximately 2 acres in size, including parking, with a capacity of at least 30 persons/dogs. This should provide separate zones to allow for resting of over-used areas and allow for separate enclosures for aggressive or big dogs, and small or timid dogs.

Exhibit 5.2-9: Existing and Proposed Community Centers

LEGEND

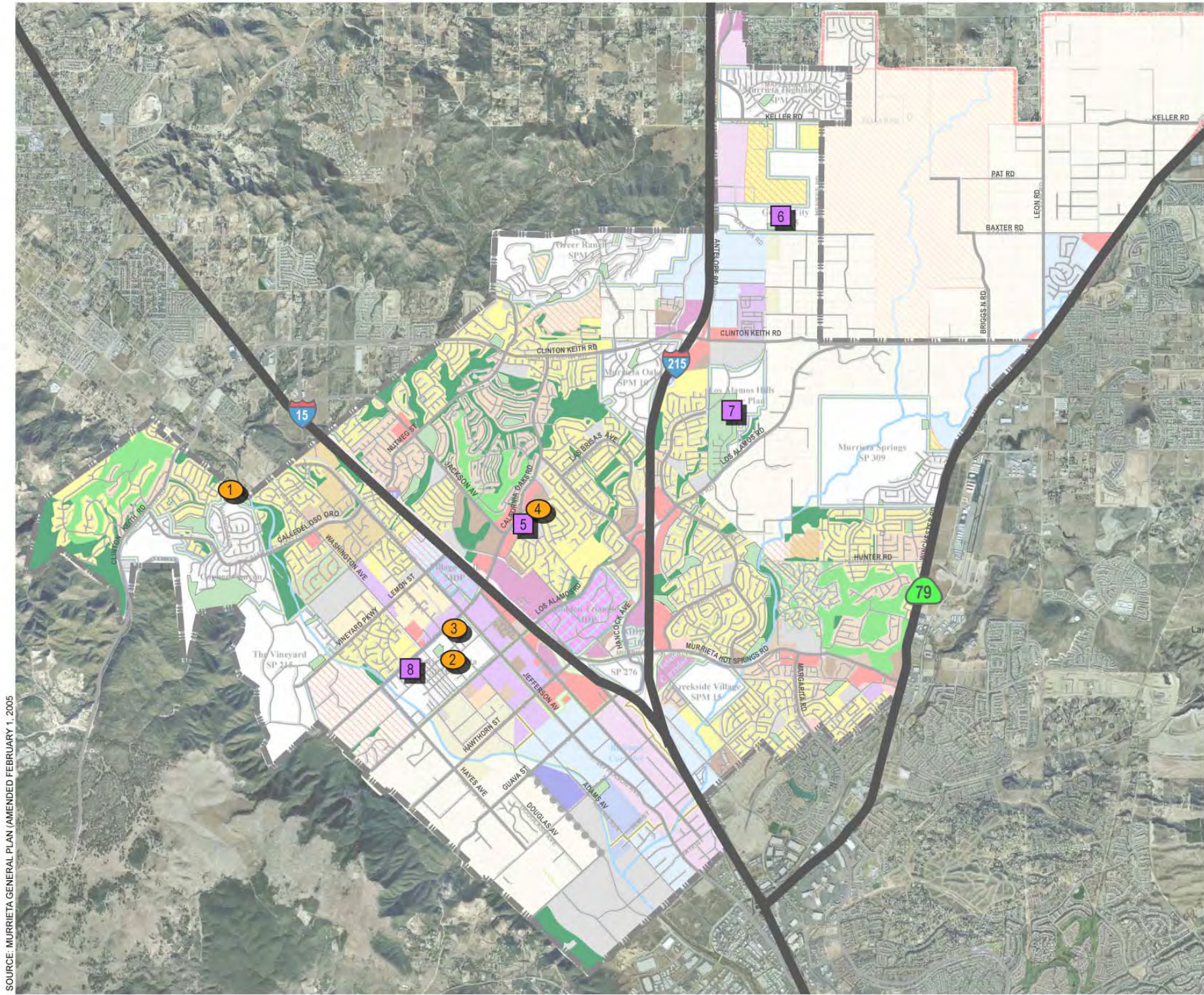
EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS / RECREATION CENTERS

- 1 Copper Canyon Park (Recreation Center)
- 2 Hunt Park
- 3 Senior Citizen's Center
- 4 Boys and Girls Club (to be relocated to Second Street Park)

PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTERS

Opportunity Sites

- 5 California Oaks Sports Park (Teen Center)
- 6 Golden Cities Park (Recreation Center)
- 7 Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Community Center)
- 8 Second Street Park (Boys & Girls Club)



SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS-COMMUNITY CENTER

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE
CITY OF MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA

DATE: 11/24/08

RJM

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Exhibit 5.2-10: Existing and Proposed Dog Parks

LEGEND

EXISTING DOG PARKS

No existing off leash facilities

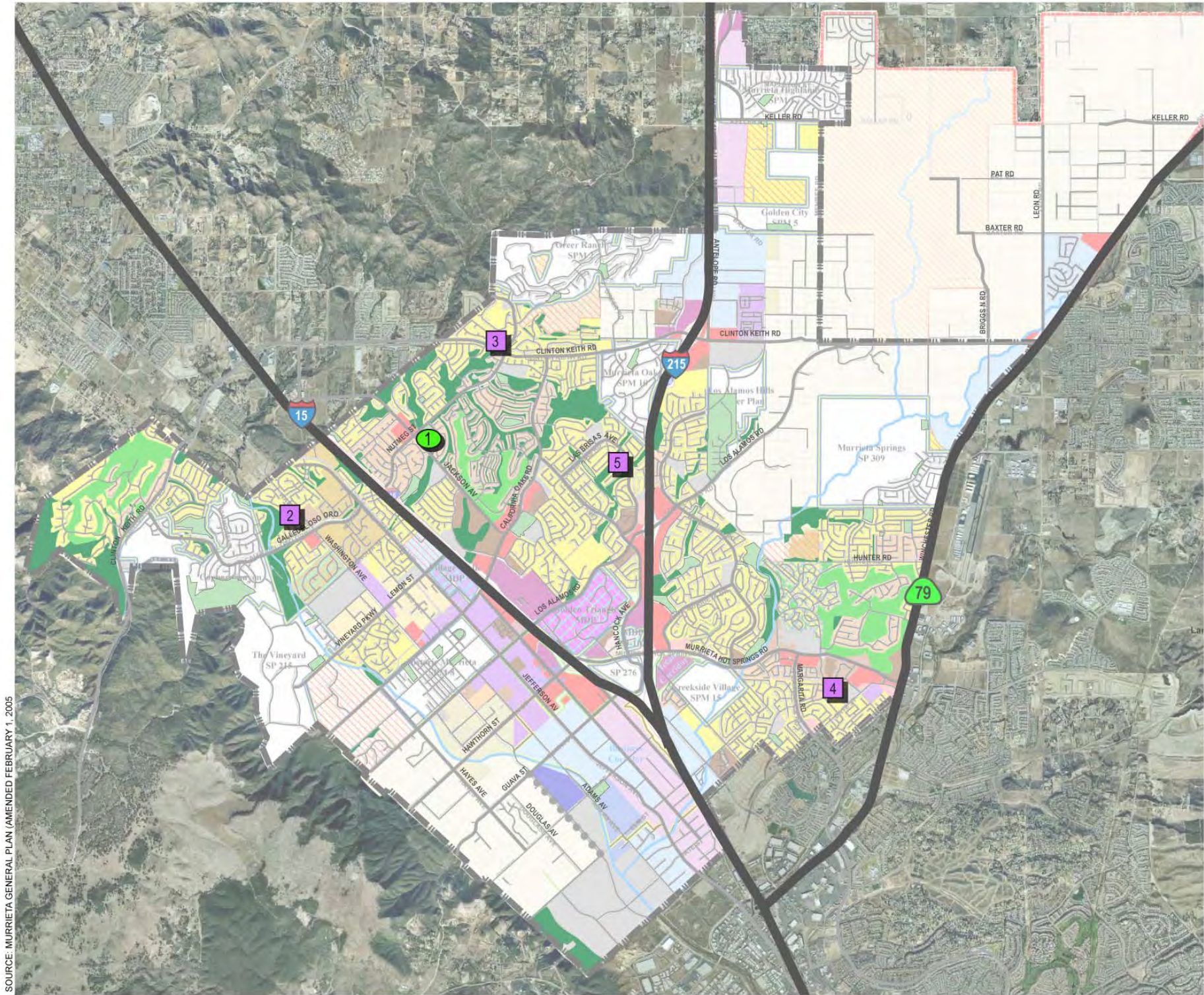
PROPOSED DOG PARKS

Existing Parks

1 Glen Arbor Park

Opportunity Sites

- 2 Calle del Oso Oro Site
- 3 City Parcel/Nutmeg
- 4 Torrey Pines Park
- 5 City Parcel/Calle San Vicente



SOURCE: MURRIETA GENERAL PLAN (AMENDED FEBRUARY 1, 2005)

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Gymnasium / Indoor Basketball Courts

Background: According to the Demand and Need Analysis evaluation, Murrieta will need two (2) additional indoor basketball courts by the time the City reaches ultimate build-out (1 currently needed). Gymnasium / Indoor Basketball are among the needs most often indicated by Master Plan needs identification tools.

Gymnasiums are often part of a larger community center building in which offices, meeting rooms, exercise rooms, and other elements are found.

Recommendations: Exhibit 5.2-11 identifies the existing gymnasiums, and the proposed locations to add gymnasiums. Three sites are proposed to include gymnasiums that will include indoor basketball courts, they are:

- *Renovate Community Center Gym*
- *Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion - Phase 2 (20,000 sf, to include a gymnasium)*
- *Teen Center at California Oaks Sports Park Expansion -Phase 2 (to include gymnasium, workout room, locker room)*

Parkland Acreage

Background: Based on the City's parkland standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents, a current parkland deficit of 215 acres exists. A future deficit of 314 acres will occur if no new parkland is added and the City continues to grow as anticipated.

Recommendations: There are thirteen (13) identified undeveloped park sites totaling over 100 acres within the City of Murrieta (See Exhibit 2.8-1). Depending upon specific design and public process outcomes for each site, it is likely that most opportunity sites will be considered parks for which full acreage credit is given when developed. On the other hand, some opportunity

park sites may ultimately be considered “nature parks”, a different type of park for which a maximum of 10% acreage credit can be given because a maximum of 10% of a natural open space park can be improved for active recreation. It is also important to consider acquisition sites to address future parkland acreage deficits.

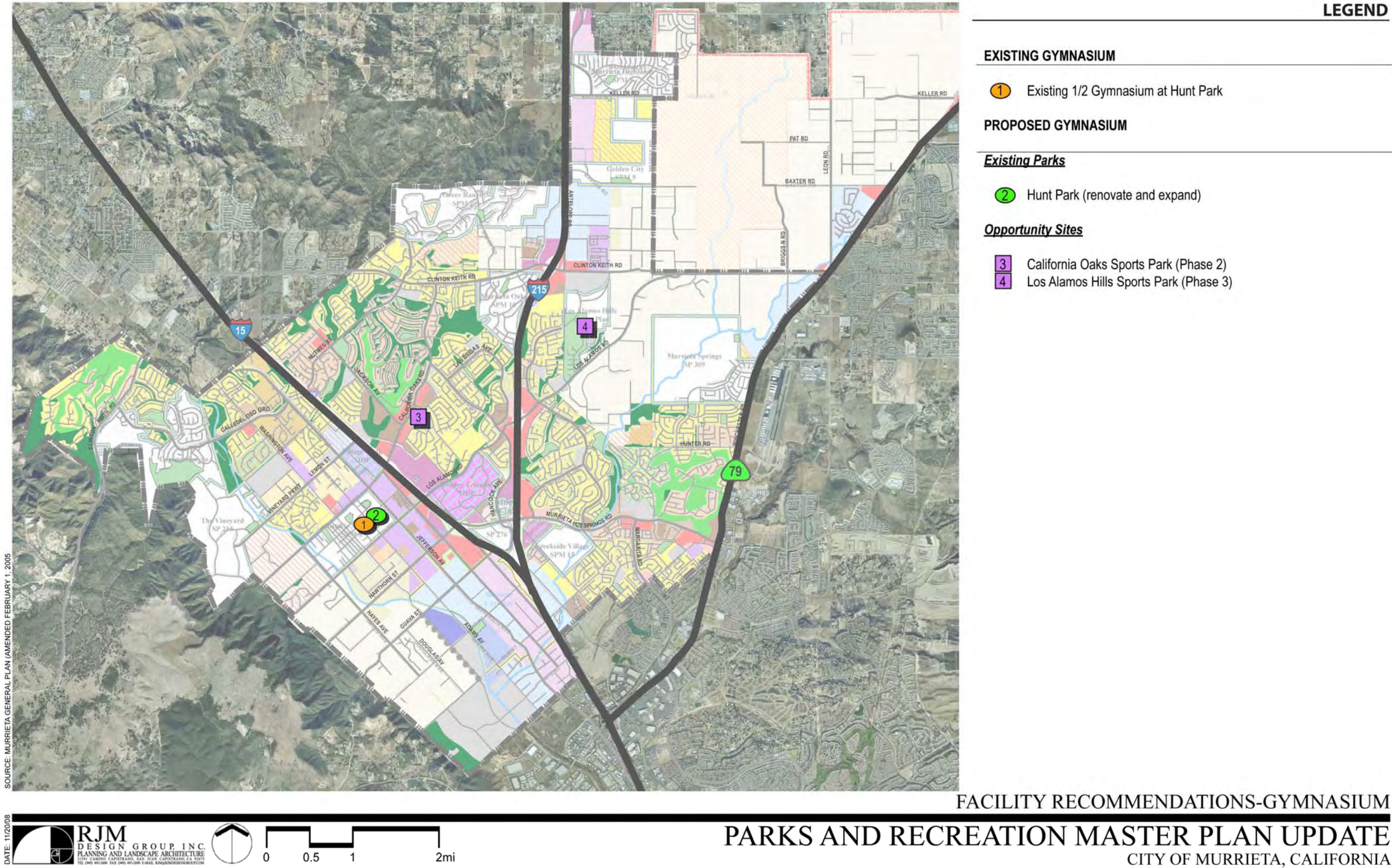
5.3 Summary of Recreation Facility Recommendations for Current Needs

Exhibit 5.3-1, Summary of Recommendations, lists all of the proposed facility recommendations including the quantity of recreation elements proposed. The identified Key Issues and current quantity needed as identified in the demand/needs analysis (Exhibit 3.3-1) is then compared to the proposed recommendations in attempt to fulfill the current facility needs in Murrieta.

In addition to the high priority needs, Key Issues, the facility needs assessment also identifies a current need for (1) skate board park, and (20) picnic tables. Due to the seasonal hot weather in Murrieta, picnic shelters are desirable. During the facility inventory tour, it was noted that some of the existing playground areas were in need of renovation and/or expansion. These needs are also listed in Exhibit 5.3-1.

These recommendations may exceed current need; however some sites proposed may not be implemented. Proposed recommendations are intended to show general feasibility only, for purposes of community-wide recreation master planning. When an actual project is undertaken, design will be refined in accordance with environmental considerations, accurate topographical information, community input, and cost considerations in effect at the time. Costs and funding sources for these capital improvements are discussed in the next section, Section 6 – Funding.

Exhibit 5.2-11: Existing and Proposed Gymnasiums



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Exhibit 5.3-1: Summary of Recommendations

CITY OF MURRIETA RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CURRENT NEEDS	PASSIVE FACILITIES					ATHLETIC FACILITIES						
	Community Center	Dog Park / Off Leash Dog Area	Picnic Tables with Shade Shelter	Playground / Tot Lot	Spray Play Elements	Baseball	Gymnasium	Skate Park	Soccer	Softball	Swimming Pool	Tennis Court
EXISTING PARKS & FACILITIES												
Antigua Park			4	R								
Barratt Park				R								
Calle Estancia Park			4	1								
California Oaks Sports Park				R	•				1**		R	2L
Century Park				R								
Copper Canyon Park					•				1**			
Firefighters Park				R								
Glen Arbor Park		•										
Hunt Park							R					
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 1)									2AF			
Mapleton Park			4	R	•							
Meadowridge Park			4	R								
Montafino Park				R								
Murrieta Elementary School Park										1L*		
Oak Tree Park			4	R								
Rancho Acacia Park				R								
Shady Maple Park				R								
Sycamore Park			4									
Whitewood Park		•										
SUB-TOTAL IN EXISTING PARKS	0	[1]	24	1	3	0	0.5	0	4	0	0.5	2
JOINT USE SCHOOLS												
Murrieta Elementary School						1						
Warm Springs Middle School						2			2			
Thompson Middle School						1			1			
Murrieta Valley High School												7
Vista Murrieta High School												8
New High School (by Cal Oaks)						•			•		1	
SUB-TOTAL IN JOINT USE SCHOOLS	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	1	15
OPPORTUNITY SITES												
Planned Facilities												
DESIGNED												
California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 3)	1						1					
Cherry Street Park						4			4			6
Golden Cities Park	0.5			1		1						
Second Avenue Park	0.5		4									
Torrey Pines Park		•	4	1		1						
Vineyards Park				1		1			2			
NOT DESIGNED												
Grizzly Ridge Park			6	1								
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)				1				1		1		4
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 3)	1	•			•		1				1	
Unplanned Facilities												
Calle Del Oso Oro Site		•										
City Parcel #1 - MYSL Site		•										
Town Hall Association Parcel		•										
Acquisition Sites												
Vineyard Specific Plan - developer property	•					•			•		•	•
SUB-TOTAL IN OPPORTUNITY SITES	3	[4]	14	5	0	7	2	1	6	1	1	10
TOTAL RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS:	3.0	[5]	38.0	6.0	3.0	11.0	2.5	1.0	13.0	1.0	2.5	27.0
CURRENT FACILITY NEEDS FROM EXHIBIT 3.3-1 (DEFICIT):	n/a	3.0	20.0	n/a	n/a	8.7	1.4	1.0	12.9	1.0	1.1	28.4
TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT :	n/a	n/a	18.00	n/a	n/a	2.30	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.40	-1.40

Recreation Facility Recommendations

5.4 Summary of Recommendations at Existing Parks

Exhibit 5.8-1 is intended to summarize proposed improvements in existing City parks.

Existing Park	Proposed Improvements
Antigua Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot
Barratt Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Calle Estancia Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables* • Add playground/tot lot*
California Oaks Sports Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add lighting at existing tennis courts • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot * • Renovate/expand swimming pool to include recreation pool and spray play • Schedule soccer games on existing field
Century Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Copper Canyon Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add spray play elements • Schedule soccer games on existing field
Firefighters Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Glen Arbor Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider off leash dog area and parking (candidate site)
Hunt Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovate gymnasium
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider artificial turf at (2) soccer fields
Mapleton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables • Add spray play • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot
Meadowridge Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Montafino Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Murrieta Elementary School Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrofit the 2 existing fields to be 1 adult size field • Add lighting to 1 softball field
Oak Tree Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot
Rancho Acacia Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot *
Shady Maple Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand/renovate playground/tot lot
Sycamore Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelter including 4 picnic tables
Town Square Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add honor garden • Renovate amphitheater • Add Restroom • Add Veteran's Memorial

*Improvement is partially funded in the 2008 Capital Improvements Program

5.5 Summary of Recommendations in Joint Use Schools

School	Proposed Recommendations
Murrieta Elementary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add 1 baseball field
Warm Springs Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add 2 baseball fields• Add 2 soccer fields
Thompson Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add 1 baseball Field• Add 1 soccer field
Murrieta Valley High School**	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add 7 tennis courts
Vista Murrieta High School**	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add 8 tennis courts
New High School (by Cal Oaks Sports Park)**	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add baseball fields• Add soccer fields• Add swimming pool• Add tennis courts

**Will require amendment to Joint Use Agreement with the Murrieta Valley Unified School District

In addition to the joint use facilities mentioned above, it is recommended that the tennis courts at the existing High Schools be considered for public use during non-school hours.

5.6 Summary of Recommendations in Opportunity Sites

Opportunity Site	Proposed Recommendation
<i>PLANNED AND DESIGNED</i>	
California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add teen center with gymnasium
Cherry Street Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 4 baseball fields • Add 4 soccer fields • Potential for tennis courts
Golden Cities Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 1 baseball field • Add 2 half court basketball • Add playground/tot lot • Add recreation room
Second Avenue Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Boys & Girls Club facility • Add open turf area • Add picnic shelter • Add picnic tables • Add train station platform • Incorporate historical buildings • Renovate to include historic schoolhouse replica*
Torrey Pines Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 1 baseball field* • Add open turf area • Add picnic shelter* • Add playground/tot lot* • Add restroom • Possible off-leash dog area (candidate site)
Vineyards Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add amphitheatre • Add 1 baseball field • Add playground/tot lot • Add 2 soccer fields
<i>PLANNED AND NOT DESIGNED</i>	
Grizzly Ridge Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add picnic shelters including 6 picnic tables • Add playground/tot lot*
Los Alamos Hills Park (Phase 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add playground/tot lot* • Add skate park • Add softball fields* • Add tennis courts* • Add trail connections*
Los Alamos Hills Park (Phase 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add community center with gymnasium • Consider aquatic facility
<i>UNPLANNED</i>	
Calle Del Oso Oro Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add off leash dog area (candidate site)
City Parcel/Nutmeg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add off leash dog area (candidate site)
City Parcel/Calle San Vicente	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add off leash dog area (candidate site)
<i>ACQUISITION SITES</i>	
Vineyard Specific Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible sports park (ballfields, soccer, etc.)
Water District Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 4 baseball fields

*Improvement is partially funded in the 2008 Capital Improvements Program

Section Six

6.0 FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Two major cost centers require funding in order to implement the Master Plan. One is capital costs which include: acquisition and development of new required park lands and facilities and renovation of existing park and school land. The second is the ongoing cost of maintaining and operating these facilities.

Currently, funding for capital improvements/additions to park and recreation facilities in the City of Murrieta comes from several sources. Fees on new development (development impact fees and developer special agreements) are a major source of funding to provide parks and recreation facilities for the residents of newly developing areas of the City. Other recent sources of funding include Redevelopment Agency tax allocation bonds, grant funds (including Community Development Block Grants), and contributions from the City's general fund reserves.

Funding for maintenance and operation of Murrieta park and recreation facilities and programs are currently provided by the Community Services District funds, user fees for recreation programs and facility use, and the City's general fund.

Section Six Highlights:

- There are two cost centers for funding: capital costs and operations & maintenance costs.
- Funding sources depend on the improvements and the facility type.
- It is strongly recommended that the City examine the current fee structure and make adjustments so that the fees collected are in line with the costs of maintenance and operation of the facilities or programs for which the fees are levied.
- Cost for all proposed facility improvements totals around \$40 Million which does not include design fees, acquisition costs, infrastructure and site specific features.

6.1 Funding Sources

The following listing of funding sources have been categorized according to the appropriate application of the funding they provide - Capital Funding, Operation and Maintenance or a Combination of Both. These explanations of funding options are provided to give definition to **alternative funding programs** which the City may elect to employ. These sources will be evaluated and applicable sources will be matched to the specific projects which are recommended in this Park and Recreation Master Plan.

Capital Funding Programs

1. **Non-Profit Foundation** - such as a 501 (c)(3). This would provide a vehicle for a capital fund drive and a means to build community support. There should be well defined facilities and specific costs to be funded. The foundation acts as a conduit for receiving private donations from entities who might otherwise be reluctant to donate to a City. In addition, the donor can receive tax benefits. The City can use the foundation to solicit private foundations, corporations and other businesses, local organizations and individuals (gifts, bequests, trust funds, etc.). The foundation also provides an organization that can partner with other non-profits (such as churches, service clubs and organizations) as well as private companies to jointly develop park and recreation facilities.

2. **Grants** - (from County, State and Federal agencies). While these sources have been declining in recent years, they do provide funding to many projects. Many require matching funds from the City which is an obstacle. Such funds, however, could come from sources such as the City's Non-Profit Foundation. There is usually strong competition for such grants and the City needs to compete aggressively. Some examples of such funding are:

- The California Department of Parks and Recreation administers grants which have been established by Statewide propositions or are provided for by other State programs such as the Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program under the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 and the Recreational Trails Program.
- CalTrans provides for on- or off-street bike trails and some foot trails through such funding mechanisms as *ISTEA Transportation Enhancement Activities* and *Bicycle Lane Account Funds*.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding is available for upgrading parks for ADA requirements and other improvements. These funds are also used for some limited program funding.
- The California Department of Resources manages many grant programs, through several departments such as the Department of Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Board, State Coastal Conservancy and others, that can be used for open space acquisition, habitat restoration, trails, etc. Much of the funding comes from State Bond Acts Prop 50 and Prop 84.



- Foundation Grants – There are some private foundations and non-profits that support park and recreation developments and programs. These entities can be solicited for donations to the City's Non Profit 501 (c) (3) Foundation to support specific projects which meet their criteria.



3. **Quimby Act** - The Quimby Act is a widely used source of funding which enables local government to exact dedication of land or in-lieu fees from new residential development to maintain a minimum ratio of park land to population. This applies only to residential subdivisions and does not address additional park demands created through the construction of new units on existing lots or to condominium conversions.



4. **Development Agreements** (DA's) are another mechanism through which park and recreation improvements can be acquired or provided. As part of an agreement specifying the type and density of development that will be allowed, the City can negotiate conditions and considerations in return for concessions. Such incentive programs can also be used in the provision of parks and other open spaces in commercial areas. One such program would allow extra floor space in exchange for public recreation facilities such as a plaza, a mini-park or an amphitheater. Another example of such public space in commercial development would be a new senior center.
5. **Bonds** - Most bond issues require a two-thirds vote of the electorate and are therefore not widely used for this type of funding. Some of the most common forms of these bonds are as follows:

General Obligation Bonds - These bonds are issued subject to a two-thirds majority vote of the electorate and pledge the full faith and support of the borrower. G.O bonds are paid out of the City's General Fund. Only cities with excess General Fund capacity are able to use G.O. bonds for park facility development today. Another method of implementing park and recreation facility development by use of a type of G.O. bond is by gaining voter approval for an additional property tax assessment to pay for the debt of park bonds. The issuer is authorized by the vote of a two-thirds majority of the electorate to levy an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within its jurisdiction at whatever rate is required to service the debt. Because of the high level of security, these bonds command the lowest interest rate. This type of financing requires strong community support and involves much time and effort to study community attitudes and promote acceptance in order to be successful.

Revenue Bonds - These bonds are secured by a pledge of revenues from a tax or non-tax source such as assessments or fees. Because the revenue from a particular facility is the only security, these bonds usually carry a higher interest rate than general obligation bonds. The direct issuance of revenue bonds without the formation of a funding district, as described in more detail below, may not be feasible for park and recreation purposes due to limited income streams from these types of activities. However, revenue bonds have been used to partially fund such development as an aquatic facility where a feasibility study verified the revenue generating capacity of the development.

6. **Redevelopment Agency Funding** - Redevelopment agency tax increment revenues are in some cases used to finance development of park and recreation facilities. These revenues are derived from new development which creates tax increment that can be pledged to support bond financing.
7. **Certificates of Participation** - This is a form of lease purchase agreement that does not constitute indebtedness under the State constitutional debt limit and does not require voter approval. In a typical case, a local government entity decides to acquire a new or renovated public facility. This facility is purchased or constructed by a vendor corporation and the local government signs a lease agreement with the corporation to use the facility. An underwriting firm then buys the lease obligation from the vendor corporation and breaks it into small units called "C.O.P.'s". Each C.O.P. represents a share of the lease payment revenue stream. The underwriter then places the C.O.P. issue with a bank which, in turn, sells the certificates to individual investors. The local government makes the lease payments to the bank which makes payments to the certificate holders. At the end of the lease period, title to the facility passes to the local government entity at nominal cost. Interest paid the certificate holders is tax exempt.
8. **Fund-Raising Events** - (concerts, raffles, etc.) While these are not a major source of funds, such events could contribute to an overall effort toward capital funding for a specific facility. Funds raised from such events could be channeled through the non-profit foundation described above.

Sources of Operation and Maintenance Funds

1. **User Fees** - Such fees provide some contribution toward maintenance, but are not sufficient to provide any capital funds. Some of the sources of such fees include:

- Charges for classes and special programs.
- Charges to sports leagues for maintenance and lighting costs.
- Space rental for meetings, parties and special events.
- Charges for play, such as for tennis and golf.
- Group picnic shelter use charges
- Charges for use of sites in the park system for such activities as swap meets, bazaars, antique shows, auto shows, weddings, concerts, carnivals, Christmas tree sales, etc.
- Joint use with non-profit organizations is also included in this category, where sports teams would renovate fields and/or provide field maintenance (labor or costs) if guaranteed use during the season.



It is strongly recommended that the City examine the current fee structure and make adjustments so that the fees collected are in line with the costs of maintenance and operation of the facilities or programs for which the fees are levied.

2. **Corporate Sponsorship of Events** - This is most popular for team sports and various senior or youth activities and should be actively pursued.
3. **Adopt-a-Park Programs** - This type of program could generate funds or volunteers to provide maintenance for City parks or facilities.
4. **Volunteer Labor** - Useful for certain programming and/or maintenance tasks. Would probably not constitute a large portion of funding needs.



Sources for Both Capital and O & M Funding

1. **Concessions** - By contracting with a concessionaire to build and/or operate a facility, the City can generate income which could cover the capital costs and maintenance of the facility. Examples of such concession-operated facilities include: baseball or softball diamonds, equestrian facilities, handball courts, tennis courts, miniature golf, roller hockey facilities and food and beverage concessions. In most cases, the city provides a site for the facility and either the city or the concessionaire builds the facility. The lease terms are determined accordingly.
2. **Special District Assessments** - These include Benefit Assessment Districts (under state law AB1600), Landscape and Lighting Act Districts, and Mello-Roos Districts. A special assessment or levy is placed on a property to finance improvements and/or maintenance that specifically benefit that property. The legislation requires a vote of the residents in order to form such districts or in order to change the level of assessment.
3. **Taxes** - Some examples of taxes used by other cities to pay for park and recreation include Transient Occupancy Tax, Real Estate Transfer Tax and Admissions Tax. A portion of such tax revenue could be dedicated for specific park and recreation uses, either to provide funding for a bond issue or to cover defined maintenance and operating costs.
4. **User Group Contributions** – Sports groups sometimes have an interest in constructing and maintaining fields for their use if the City would provide a nominal lease of land for a reasonable time span so that they can capture the value of the improvements. This relieves the City of the costs involved, however, it precludes the use of the fields by other user groups unless that is made a condition of the lease.

5. Joint Use Agreements with School Districts

– Joint Use agreements with local School Districts provide for reciprocal use of facilities in some cases and City use of school facilities in others. They define responsibilities for capital improvements and maintenance of the facilities. Problems sometimes arise when expanding school sports programs create inequalities in the amount of time the City has access to the joint use facilities. Agreements need to be definitive and specific as to allowed usage.

- 6. Sale or Lease of Surplus Lands** - The sale or lease of land or other capital facilities for which the City has no further use can sometimes be a major source of revenue. One-time receipts from the sale of land can be used for the acquisition of new park lands, recreation facilities, or the development of new community service facilities. Revenues from long-term leases can be used to provide maintenance or underwrite programs. Surplus parcels also may provide opportunities for trading land elsewhere in the City with other agencies that own land more suitable for park purposes.

6.2 Potential Funding Sources by Facility Type

A summary of the various funding sources for the most appropriate project type is presented in Exhibit 6.2-1. The City should look at developing new sources beyond those currently in use. It should be kept in mind that Quimby fees or other developer fees can only be used to provide facilities for new residents. Deficits identified in Exhibit 6.2-2 should be funded by one of the various funding sources. The specific funding source to be considered will depend partly on the timing of the development and the funding sources which may be available or which are more easily pursued at that time.

For major improvements which include such facilities as community centers, tennis complexes, gymnasiums, senior centers, teen centers, ballfield complexes, etc., the use of a fund raising effort to be conducted on behalf of the City's non-profit foundation could be beneficial. Sponsorships/naming rights for major corporate or other private donors can be offered. In some cases, the use of a professional fund raising firm should be considered once a facility or project for which the funding will be used is identified. Other sources of funding for such projects could include public/private partnerships, partnerships with private sector through website advertising, user group contributions, joint use with the school district and public or private grants. Use of bonds or special districts require a vote by the residents and have been used successfully in some communities. The specific facilities and improvements to be paid for need to be identified and a public relations effort is required to enlist the support of the electorate. The greater the demand and recognition of the need by the public, the greater will be the chance of success.

Exhibit 6.2-1: Funding Sources by Project Type

Funding Source	PROJECT TYPE			
	Acquisition	Improvement	Operations	Programs
Non-Profit Foundation – i.e. 501 (c)(3)	x	x		
State and Federal Grants ¹	x	x		
Foundation Grants ¹	x	x		
Quimby Dedication/In-lieu Fee	x	x		
Development Agreements/Impact Fees	x	x		
General Obligation Bonds	x	x		
Revenue Bonds	x	x		
Certificates of Participation	x	x		
Redevelopment Agency Funding	x	x		
Fund Raising Events	x	x		
Sponsorship (Naming Rights)	x	x	x	x
User Fees			x	x
Corporate Sponsorship of Events			x	x
Adopt-a-Park Program			x	x
Volunteer Labor			x	x
Public/Private Partnerships (Concessions)	x	x	x	x
Benefit Assessment District	x	x	x	x
Mello Roos District	x	x	x	
Transient Occupancy Tax	x	x	x	x
Real Estate Transfer Tax	x	x		
Admissions Tax	x	x	x	x
User Group Contributions	x	x	x	x
Joint Use with School District/Public Agency	x	x	x	x
Sale/Lease of Surplus Lands	x	x	x	x
General Fund	x	x	x	x

¹ The grant requirements will specify what functions are eligible for funding.

Exhibit 6.2-2: Potential Funding Sources for Facility Recommendations

CITY OF MURRIETA
POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES IDENTIFIED BY FACILITY TYPE

Recommendations	Funding Key
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	
<u>Antigua Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot <i>Funding Sources for Antigua Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,F,G,H
<u>Barratt Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot** <i>Funding Sources for Barratt Park Improvements:</i>	A
<u>Calle Estancia Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)** (1) Playground/Tot Lot** <i>Funding Sources for Calle Estancia Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,M
<u>California Oaks Sports Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot (1) Spray Play Renovate Swimming Pool Light Existing (2) Tennis Courts <i>Funding Sources for California Oaks Sports Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,F,G,H,I,M,N,O,P
<u>Century Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot** <i>Funding Sources for Century Park Improvements:</i>	A
<u>Copper Canyon Park</u> (1) Spray Play <i>Funding Sources for Copper Canyon Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,G,H
<u>Firefighters Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot** <i>Funding Sources for Firefighters Park Improvements:</i>	A
<u>Glen Arbor Park</u> (1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre)** <i>Funding Sources for Glen Arbor Park Improvements:</i>	A
Potential Funding Sources: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> A. Developer Impact Fees B. Developer Special Agreement C. General Fund D. Non-Profit Foundation E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions F. Grants - CDBG G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations H. Corporate Sponsorship </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> I. Certificates of Participation J. Bonds K. Community Services District L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land M. User Group Contributions N. School District Joint Use Contributions O. Dedicated Taxes P. Redevelopment Agency Funding </div> </div>	

Exhibit 6.2-2: Potential Funding Sources for Facility Recommendations

Recommendations	Funding Key
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	
<u>Hunt Park</u> Renovate/Expand Gymnasium	
<i>Funding Sources for Hunt Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,F,G,H,I,M,P
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 1)</u> Convert (2) Existing Soccer Fields to Artificial Turf	
<i>Funding Sources for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Improvements:</i>	A,C,D,G,H,M,N
<u>Mapleton Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot (1) Spray Play	
<i>Funding Sources for Mapleton Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,P
<u>Meadowridge Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	
<i>Funding Sources for Meadowridge Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G
<u>Montafino Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	
<i>Funding Sources for Montafino Park Improvements:</i>	A
<u>Murrieta Elementary School Park</u> (1) Lighted Softball Field	
<i>Funding Sources for Murrieta Elementary School Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G,H,M,N
<u>Oak Tree Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	
<i>Funding Sources for Oak Tree Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G
<u>Rancho Acacia Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	
<i>Funding Sources for Rancho Acacia Park Improvements:</i>	A
<u>Shady Maple Park</u> Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	
<i>Funding Sources for Shady Maple Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G,
<u>Sycamore Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	
<i>Funding Sources for Sycamore Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G
<u>Town Square Park</u> Honor Garden Renovate Amphitheater Restroom Veterans' Memorial	
<i>Funding Sources for Sycamore Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G
Potential Funding Sources: A. Developer Impact Fees B. Developer Special Agreement C. General Fund D. Non-Profit Foundation E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions F. Grants - CDBG G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations H. Corporate Sponsorship I. Certificates of Participation J. Bonds K. Community Services District L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land M. User Group Contributions N. School District Joint Use Contributions O. Dedicated Taxes P. Redevelopment Agency Funding	

Exhibit 6.2-2: Potential Funding Sources for Facility Recommendations

Recommendations	Funding Key
PLANNED FACILITIES: DESIGNED	
<u>California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)</u> Teen Center with Gymnasium (16,700 SF @ \$300/SF) <i>Funding Sources for California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2):</i>	A,D,E,G,H,I,M,N,O,P
<u>Cherry Street Park</u> (4) Lighted Baseball Fields (4) Lighted Soccer Fields (6) Lighted Tennis Courts <i>Funding Sources for Cherry Street Park:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,I,M,N
<u>Golden Cities Park</u> (1) Baseball Field (2) Half Court Basketball (1) Playground/Tot Lot Recreation Room (3,360 SF @ \$300/SF) <i>Funding Sources for Golden Cities Park:</i>	B
<u>Second Avenue Park</u> Boys and Girls Club Facility (4,000 SF \$300/SF) Open Turf Area (1 acre) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Train Station Platform Renovate historical buildings Renovate historic schoolhouse replica** <i>Funding Sources for Second Avenue Park:</i>	A,D,E,F,G,H,I,M,O,P
<u>Torrey Pines Park</u> (1) Baseball Field** Open Turf Area (2 acres)** Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)** (1) Playground/Tot Lot** Restroom** Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre) <i>Funding Sources for Torrey Pines Park:</i>	A,D,G,H,K,M
<u>Vineyards Park</u> Amphitheatre (30 feet x 60 feet) (1) Baseball Field (1) Playground/Tot Lot (2) Soccer Fields <i>Funding Sources for Vineyards Park:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,M
Potential Funding Sources: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> A. Developer Impact Fees B. Developer Special Agreement C. General Fund D. Non-Profit Foundation E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions F. Grants - CDBG G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations H. Corporate Sponsorship </div> <div> I. Certificates of Participation J. Bonds K. Community Services District L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land M. User Group Contributions N. School District Joint Use Contributions O. Dedicated Taxes P. Redevelopment Agency Funding </div> </div>	

Exhibit 6.2-2: Potential Funding Sources for Facility Recommendations

Recommendations	Funding Key
PLANNED FACILITIES: NOT DESIGNED	
<u>Grizzly Ridge Park</u> (1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables) Playground/Tot Lot <i>Funding Sources for Grizzly Ridge Park Improvements:</i>	A,D,G
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)</u> Playground/Tot Lot** Skate Park (12,000 SF @ \$40/SF) (2) Softball Field** (4) Tennis Court** Trail Connections** <i>Funding Sources for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 2) Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,M,N
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 3)</u> (1) Community Center (10,000 SF @ \$300/SF) (1) Spray Play (1) Gymnasium (1) Swimming Pool <i>Funding Sources for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 3) Improvements:</i>	A,D,E,G,H,I,L,N,O,P
UNPLANNED FACILITIES	
<u>Calle Del Oso Oro Site</u> (1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre) <i>Funding Sources for Calle Del Oso Oro Site Improvements:</i>	A,D,G,H,M
<u>City Parcel/Nutmeg</u> (1) Off Leash Dog Area (2 acres) <i>Funding Sources for City Parcel/Nutmeg Improvements:</i>	A,D,G,H,M
<u>City Parcel/Calle San Vicente</u> (1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre) <i>Funding Sources for City Parcel/Calle San Vicente Improvements:</i>	A,D,G,H,M
**See Capital Improvements Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2013	

Potential Funding Sources:

A. Developer Impact Fees	I. Certificates of Participation
B. Developer Special Agreement	J. Bonds
C. General Fund	K. Community Services District
D. Non-Profit Foundation	L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land
E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions	M. User Group Contributions
F. Grants - CDBG	N. School District Joint Use Contributions
G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations	O. Dedicated Taxes
H. Corporate Sponsorship	P. Redevelopment Agency Funding

6.3 Capital Costs for Proposed Recommendations

Recommendations are suggested to address the identified facility needs. In some cases, the recommendation exceeds the current need. For example, there are three (3) off leash dog areas needed in the City, but we have identified seven (7) potential sites. Therefore it can be assumed that not all recommendations will be implemented. Exhibit 6.3-1 lists the park and facility recommendations outlined in Section 5 of the Master Plan by facility and includes an Opinion of Probable Construction Costs for each proposed facility improvement. Costs for facility improvements do not include demolition, support structures, irrigation, utilities, design and administrative costs, or land acquisition.

Exhibit 6.3-1: Capital Costs for Proposed Recommendations

CITY OF MURRIETA
OPINION OF PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR FACILITY NEEDS

Recommendations	Improvement Cost*
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	
<u>Antigua Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total for Antigua Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>
<u>Barratt Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total for Barratt Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>
<u>Calle Estancia Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)**	\$100,000
(1) Playground/Tot Lot**	\$400,000
<i>Sub-Total for Calle Estancia Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>
<u>California Oaks Sports Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	\$100,000
(1) Spray Play	\$500,000
Renovate Swimming Pool***	\$300,000
Light Existing (2) Tennis Courts	\$100,000
<i>Sub-Total for California Oaks Sports Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$1,000,000</i>
<u>Century Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total for Century Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>

*Anticipated Construction Costs in 2008 Dollars. Estimates is for specific facility needs and does not include complete park area improvements. Actual costs will depend on final design, size of facility, support facilities, utilities, infrastructure, and site specific conditions. Land acquisition costs, general conditions, and professional fees are not included. RJM has prepared this opinion of probable construction costs on the basis of its best professional judgment and experience with the construction industry. The estimate, however, represents assumptions and opinions of the construction market and contractors' methods of determining actual construction costs over which RJM has no control. If the owner wishes greater assurance as to the construction cost, he shall employ an independent cost estimator.

**See Capital Improvements Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2013

***Budget Allocation Only - City will need a detailed analysis of pool, equipment, and support facilities to establish actual costs.

NOTE: A detailed analysis of existing historic structures at Second Avenue Park will be required to establish costs.

Exhibit 6.3-1: Capital Costs for Proposed Recommendations

Recommendations	Improvement Cost*
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	
<u>Copper Canyon Park</u>	
(1) Spray Play	\$500,000
<i>Sub-Total for Copper Canyon Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>
<u>Firefighters Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total for Firefighters Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>
<u>Glen Arbor Park</u>	
(1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre)**	\$300,000
<i>Sub-Total for Glen Arbor Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>
<u>Hunt Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Gymnasium	\$1,500,000
<i>Sub-Total for Hunt Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$1,500,000</i>
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 1)</u>	
Convert (2) Existing Soccer Fields to Artificial Turf	\$600,000
<i>Sub-Total for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$600,000</i>
<u>Mapleton Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	\$200,000
(1) Spray Play	\$500,000
<i>Sub-Total for Mapleton Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$800,000</i>
<u>Meadowridge Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
<i>Sub-Total for Meadowridge Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>

*Anticipated Construction Costs in 2008 Dollars. Estimates is for specific facility needs and does not include complete park area improvements. Actual costs will depend on final design, size of facility, support facilities, utilities, infrastructure, and site specific conditions. Land acquisition costs, general conditions, and professional fees are not included. RJM has prepared this opinion of probable construction costs on the basis of its best professional judgment and experience with the construction industry. The estimate, however, represents assumptions and opinions of the construction market and contractors' methods of determining actual construction costs over which RJM has no control. If the owner wishes greater assurance as to the construction cost, he shall employ an independent cost estimator.

**See Capital Improvements Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2013

***Budget Allocation Only - City will need a detailed analysis of pool, equipment, and support facilities to establish actual costs.

NOTE: A detailed analysis of existing historic structures at Second Avenue Park will be required to establish costs.

Exhibit 6.3-1: Capital Costs for Proposed Recommendations

Recommendations	Improvement Cost*
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	
<u>Montafino Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
Sub-Total for Montafino Park Improvements:	\$200,000
<u>Murrieta Elementary School Park</u>	
(1) Lighted Softball Field	\$700,000
Sub-Total for Murrieta Park Improvements:	\$700,000
<u>Oak Tree Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	\$200,000
Sub-Total for Oak Tree Park Improvements:	\$300,000
<u>Rancho Acacia Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot**	\$200,000
Sub-Total for Rancho Acacia Park Improvements:	\$200,000
<u>Shady Maple Park</u>	
Renovate/Expand Playground/Tot Lot	\$200,000
Sub-Total for Shady Maple Park Improvements:	\$200,000
<u>Sycamore Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area - Add (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Sub-Total for Sycamore Park Improvements:	\$100,000
<u>Town Square Park</u>	
Honor Garden	not available
Renovate Amphitheater	\$500,000
Restroom	\$250,000
Veterans' Memorial	\$2,000,000
Sub-Total for Town Center Park:	\$2,250,000
PLANNED FACILITIES: DESIGNED	
<u>California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 1 and 2)</u>	
Teen Center with Gymnasium (16,700 SF @ \$300/SF)	\$5,010,000
Sub-Total for California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2):	\$5,010,000
<u>Cherry Street Park</u>	
(4) Lighted Baseball Fields	\$2,800,000
(4) Lighted Soccer Fields	\$2,800,000
(6) Lighted Tennis Courts	\$1,650,000
Sub-Total for Cherry Street Park:	\$7,250,000

*Anticipated Construction Costs in 2008 Dollars. Estimates is for specific facility needs and does not include complete park area improvements. Actual costs will depend on final design, size of facility, support facilities, utilities, infrastructure, and site specific conditions. Land acquisition costs, general conditions, and professional fees are not included. RJM has prepared this opinion of probable construction costs on the basis of its best professional judgment and experience with the construction industry. The estimate, however, represents assumptions and opinions of the construction market and contractors' methods of determining actual construction costs over which RJM has no control. If the owner wishes greater assurance as to the construction cost, he shall employ an independent cost estimator.

**See Capital Improvements Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2013

***Budget Allocation Only - City will need a detailed analysis of pool, equipment, and support facilities to establish actual costs.

NOTE: A detailed analysis of existing historic structures at Second Avenue Park will be required to establish costs.

Funding and Implementation

Exhibit 6.3-1: Capital Costs for Proposed Recommendations

Recommendations	Improvement Cost*
PLANNED FACILITIES: NOT DESIGNED	
<u>Grizzly Ridge Park</u>	
(1) Picnic Area (1 shelter with 4 tables)	\$100,000
Playground/Tot Lot	\$400,000
<i>Sub-Total for Grizzly Ridge Park Improvements:</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)</u>	
Playground/Tot Lot**	\$400,000
Skate Park (12,000 SF @ \$40/SF)	\$480,000
(2) Softball Fields**	\$1,000,000
(4) Tennis Courts**	\$400,000
Trail Connections**	not available
<i>Sub-Total for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 2) Improvements:</i>	<i>\$2,280,000</i>
<u>Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 3)</u>	
(1) Community Center (10000 SF @ \$300/SF)	\$3,000,000
(1) Spray Play	\$500,000
(1) Gymnasium	\$3,000,000
(1) Swimming Pool	\$625,000
<i>Sub-Total for Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 3) Improvements:</i>	<i>\$7,125,000</i>
UNPLANNED FACILITIES	
<u>Calle Del Oso Oro Site</u>	
(1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre)	\$300,000
<i>Sub-Total for Calle Del Oso Oro Site Improvements:</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>
<u>City Parcel/Nutmeg</u>	
(1) Off Leash Dog Area (2 acres)	\$600,000
<i>Sub-Total for City Parcel/Nutmeg:</i>	<i>\$600,000</i>
<u>City Parcel/Calle San Vicente</u>	
(1) Off Leash Dog Area (1 acre)	\$300,000
<i>Sub-Total for City Parcel/Calle San Vicente:</i>	<i>\$300,000</i>
Total for Facility Improvements:	\$38,793,000

*Anticipated Construction Costs in 2008 Dollars. Estimates is for specific facility needs and does not include complete park area improvements. Actual costs will depend on final design, size of facility, support facilities, utilities, infrastructure, and site specific conditions. Land acquisition costs, general conditions, and professional fees are not included. RJM has prepared this opinion of probable construction costs on the basis of its best professional judgment and experience with the construction industry. The estimate, however, represents assumptions and opinions of the construction market and contractors' methods of determining actual construction costs over which RJM has no control. If the owner wishes greater assurance as to the construction cost, he shall employ an independent cost estimator.

**See Capital Improvements Plan Fiscal Year 2008-2013

***Budget Allocation Only - City will need a detailed analysis of pool, equipment, and support facilities to establish actual costs.

NOTE: A detailed analysis of existing historic structures at Second Avenue Park will be required to establish costs.

6.4 Summary of Costs and Funding Sources.

**CITY OF MURRIETA
SUMMARY OF COSTS AND FUNDING**

Recommendations	Estimated Cost for Facility Improvements	Funding Key
EXISTING CITY FACILITIES		
Antigua Park	\$300,000	A,D,F,G,H
Barratt Park	\$200,000	A
Calle Estancia Park	\$500,000	A,D,E,G,H,M
California Oaks Sports Park	\$1,000,000	A,D,E,F,G,H,I,M,N,O,P
Century Park	\$200,000	A
Copper Canyon Park	\$500,000	A,D,E,G,H
Firefighters Park	\$200,000	A
Glen Arbor Park	\$300,000	A
Hunt Park/Community Center	\$1,500,000	A,D,F,G,H,I,M,P
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park (Phase 1)	\$600,000	A,C,D,G,H,M,N
Mapleton Park	\$800,000	A,D,E,G,H,P
Meadowridge Park	\$300,000	A,D,G
Montatfino Park	\$200,000	A
Murrieta Elementary School Park	\$700,000	A,D,G,H,M,N
Oak Tree Park	\$300,000	A,D,G
Rancho Acacia Park	\$200,000	A
Shady Maple Park	\$200,000	A,D,G
Sycamore Park	\$100,000	A,D,G
Town Square Park	\$2,250,000	A,C,D,E,G,H,P
Sub-Total for Existing Parks:	\$10,350,000	

Potential Funding Sources:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Developer Impact Fees B. Developer Special Agreement C. General Fund D. Non-Profit Foundation E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions F. Grants - CDBG G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations H. Corporate Sponsorship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Certificates of Participation J. Bonds K. Community Services District L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land M. User Group Contributions N. School District Joint Use Contributions O. Dedicated Taxes P. Redevelopment Agency Funding |
|---|---|

Recommendations	Estimated Cost for Facility Improvements	Funding Key
PLANNED FACILITIES: DESIGNED		
California Oaks Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)	\$5,010,000	A,D,E,G,H,I,M,N,O,P
Cherry Street Park	\$7,250,000	A,D,E,G,H,I,M,N
Golden Cities Park	\$2,108,000	B
Second Avenue Park	\$1,450,000	A,D,E,F,G,H,I,M,O,P
Torrey Pines Park		A,D,G,H,K,M
Vineyards Park	\$1,920,000	A,D,E,G,H,M
Sub-Total for Planned/Designed Facilities:	\$17,738,000	
PLANNED FACILITIES: NOT DESIGNED		
Grizzly Ridge Park	\$500,000	A,D,G
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 2)	\$2,280,000	A,D,E,G,H,M,N
Los Alamos Hills Sports Park Expansion (Phase 3)	\$7,125,000	A,D,E,G,H,I,L,N,O,P
Sub-Total for Planned/Not Designed Facilities:	\$9,905,000	
UNPLANNED FACILITIES		
Calle Del Oso Oro Site	\$300,000	A,D,G,H,M
City Parcel/Nutmeg	\$600,000	A,D,G,H,M
City Parcel/Calle San Vicente	\$300,000	A,D,G,H,M
Sub-Total for Unplanned Facilities:	\$1,200,000	
Potential Funding Sources:		
A. Developer Impact Fees	I. Certificates of Participation	
B. Developer Special Agreement	J. Bonds	
C. General Fund	K. Community Services District	
D. Non-Profit Foundation	L. Sale/Lease of Surplus Land	
E. Public/Private Partnerships, Concessions	M. User Group Contributions	
F. Grants - CDBG	N. School District Joint Use Contributions	
G. Grants - Public Agencies and Private Foundations	O. Dedicated Taxes	
H. Corporate Sponsorship	P. Redevelopment Agency Funding	



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